



# **BOSTON'S SHIFTING DEMOGRAPHICS**

BRA Research Division  
July 2015



**BOSTON  
REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

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# THE PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS TO PROVIDE A FACTUAL BASIS TO UNDERSTAND:

- Aggregate statistics showing historical trends that shaped the present population
- Disaggregated statistics providing a more nuanced understanding of these trends, and
- How these trends can shape the future



# BOSTON'S SHIFTING DEMOGRAPHICS



# OUTLINE

- **What Are The Trends?**
  - > A Growing City
  - > A Diverse City
  - > An Educated City
  - > A Youthful City
  - > Changing Households and Families
- **A Growing City**
  - > Population Growth Citywide
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  - > Population Growth by Neighborhood
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  - > Minority-Majority City
  - > Changing Nativity and Ancestry Composition
  - > Changing Neighborhoods – Racial and Ethnic Diversity
  - > Language Proficiency
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- **Boston's Changing Families**
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  - > Family Types
  - > Children and Seniors

# WHAT ARE THE TRENDS?



# WHAT ARE THE TRENDS?

## (1) A GROWING CITY

- Boston's population grew by 4.8% between 2000 and 2010, marking the first time since 1970 that Boston's population exceeded 600,000 people
- The foreign-born population has accounted for much of the city's population growth for the last five decades, making immigration a key driver of Boston's population growth
- Natural growth (births – deaths) has been mainly fueled by a high birth rate among Black/African-American residents, Latino residents, and foreign-born mothers
- Between 2000 and 2010, Roxbury, Fenway, Allston and Downtown grew in population, and these four neighborhoods together account for 65.2% of all growth in the city; Dorchester, Mattapan, Jamaica Plain, Longwood and Beacon Hill all declined in population between 2000 and 2010



# WHAT ARE THE TRENDS?

## (2) A DIVERSE CITY

- Since 1970, the population of Boston became more racially and ethnically diverse with the non-white population making up 53% of the city's population in 2010
- Foreign-born Hispanic and Asian immigrants were major contributors to the increasing diversity of Boston's population
- At the neighborhood level, most neighborhoods increased their diversity index score between 2000 and 2010, with Chinatown, the Leather District, and West Roxbury making the biggest gains
- In 2013, almost 36% of Boston's residents spoke a language other than English at home – up from only 13% in 1980
- Despite increasing diversity between 1970 and 2010, the African American, Hispanic, and foreign-born populations remained concentrated in a few neighborhoods



# WHAT ARE THE TRENDS?

## (3) AN EDUCATED CITY

- Boston has one of the most highly-educated populations in the country, ranking 8<sup>th</sup> among a set of 25 comparable cities
- The proportion of Bostonians with a bachelor's degree or higher rose every decade from 6.4% in 1950 to 43.9% in 2013; while the percentage of those without a high school education fell from 53.9% to 15.5%
- Educational attainment has been increasing for all segments of Boston's population, and women's educational attainment has nearly matched that of men
- However, significant educational disparities persist among different racial and ethnic groups and among immigrants:
  - 60.5% of the White population has a bachelor's degree in contrast to only 18.6% of the Black/African American population and 15.8% of the Hispanic population
  - While 49.3% of the native population holds a bachelor's degree, only 30.1% of the foreign-born population holds a similar degree

# WHAT ARE THE TRENDS?

## (4) A YOUTHFUL CITY

- While the nation's median age has moved progressively higher in the past few decades, Boston's median age has grown much more slowly in comparison:
  - The population age 0 to 4 fell from 9.5% of the population in 1960 to 5.3% in 1980, and has remained at that level since
  - The share of youth, ages 0 to 19 has been decreasing from a peak of 33% in 1970 to 21% in 2013
  - The 20-34 population increased from a low of 21% in 1960 to 34% in 2013, while the 35-64 population increased to a lesser extent from a low of 27% in 1980 to 33% in 2010
  - In 2013, seniors (population 65 and over) made up 11% of the Boston population – a very stable share since 1950, suggesting that the aging population is not a growing concern in Boston
  - However, residents in the youngest cohorts – under 19 – are proportionately more Hispanic and Black/African-American than the 20 to 34 cohort, suggesting that the college-aged population in Boston is not representative of young residents who grow up in the city

# WHAT ARE THE TRENDS?

## (5) CHANGING HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES

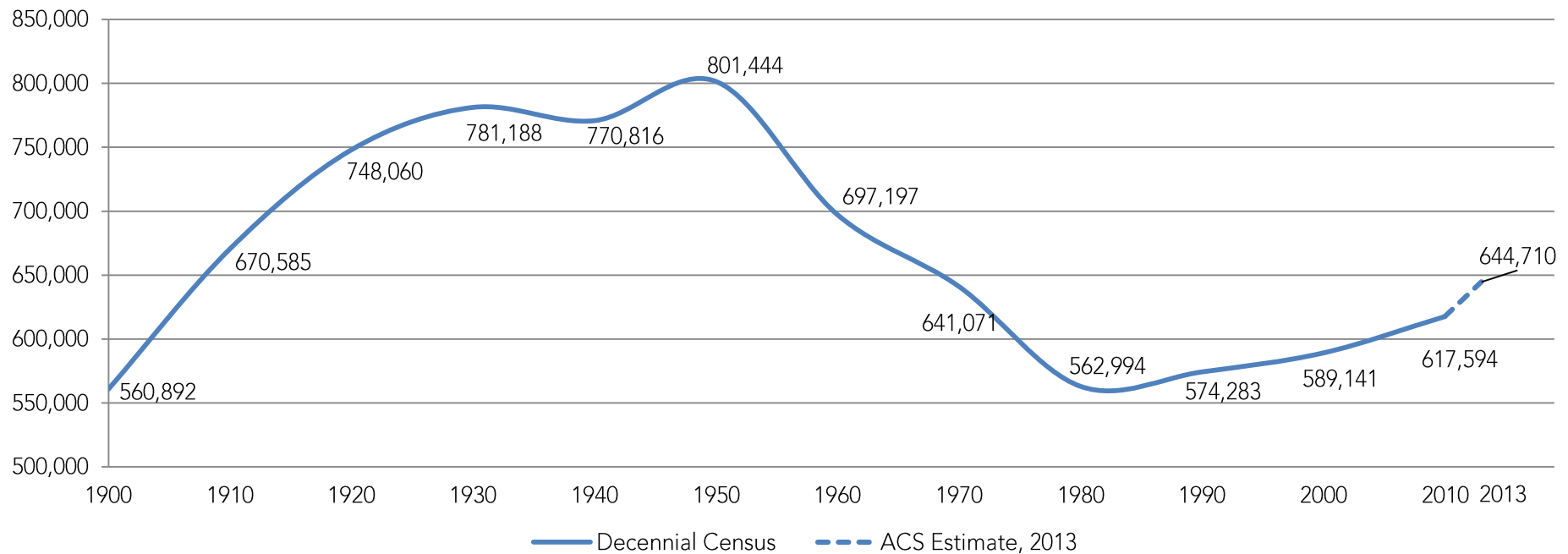
- Boston's average household size fell significantly from 3.4 in 1950 to 2.4 in 1980 and remained at that level through 2013
- The share of Boston's population that is single, never-married, rose from 33.1% in 1950 to 56.6% in 2013, and more people are living alone – 38% of housing units have only one person in 2013, up from 23.9% of units in 1960
- The proportion of households that are families has been falling, a trend that corresponds with the falling share of married people and children as a percent of the population
- The share of Boston households with a person 65 years and over decreased from 22.9% in 1980 to 19.6% in 2013
- However, linguistically isolated households – households where no one 14 or older spoke English at least very well – increased to 12% in 2010, up from 8% of households in 1990

# A GROWING CITY



- Boston's population reached its peak in 1950, with just over 800,000 residents
- Like many major U.S. cities, Boston experienced significant decline in the post-World War II era. By 1980, Boston's population fell to under 563,000 residents
- Since 1980, Boston's population grew by 14%, with the 2010 Census marking the first time since 1970 that Boston's population exceeded 600,000 people
- Boston's 2013 American Community Survey 1-year population estimate is 644,710 +/- 3,772

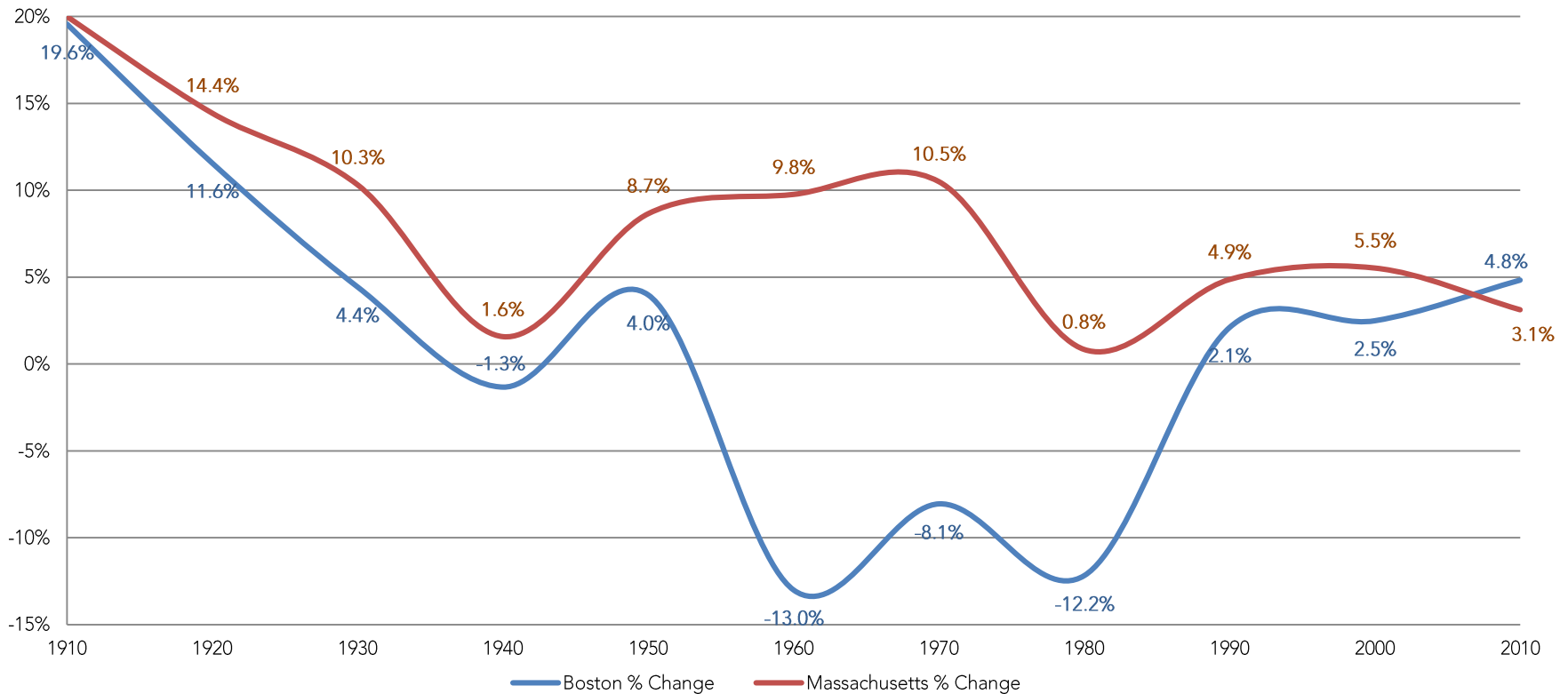
## Boston's Population (1900-2013)



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 1900-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2013 American Community Survey 1-year estimate, BRA Research Division Analysis

- The population growth between 2000 and 2010 (4.8%) marks the first time in the last one hundred years that the population of Boston grew faster than that of the state (3.1%)
- Boston's 2000-2010 growth rate of 4.8% was also the highest since 1910-1920 when the population of the city grew by 11.6% due in part to the 1912 annexation of Hyde Park
- The Boston Metro Area, defined as the MAPC region, grew by 3.5% between 2000 and 2010, a rate that was faster than the Massachusetts average, but slower than the city of Boston

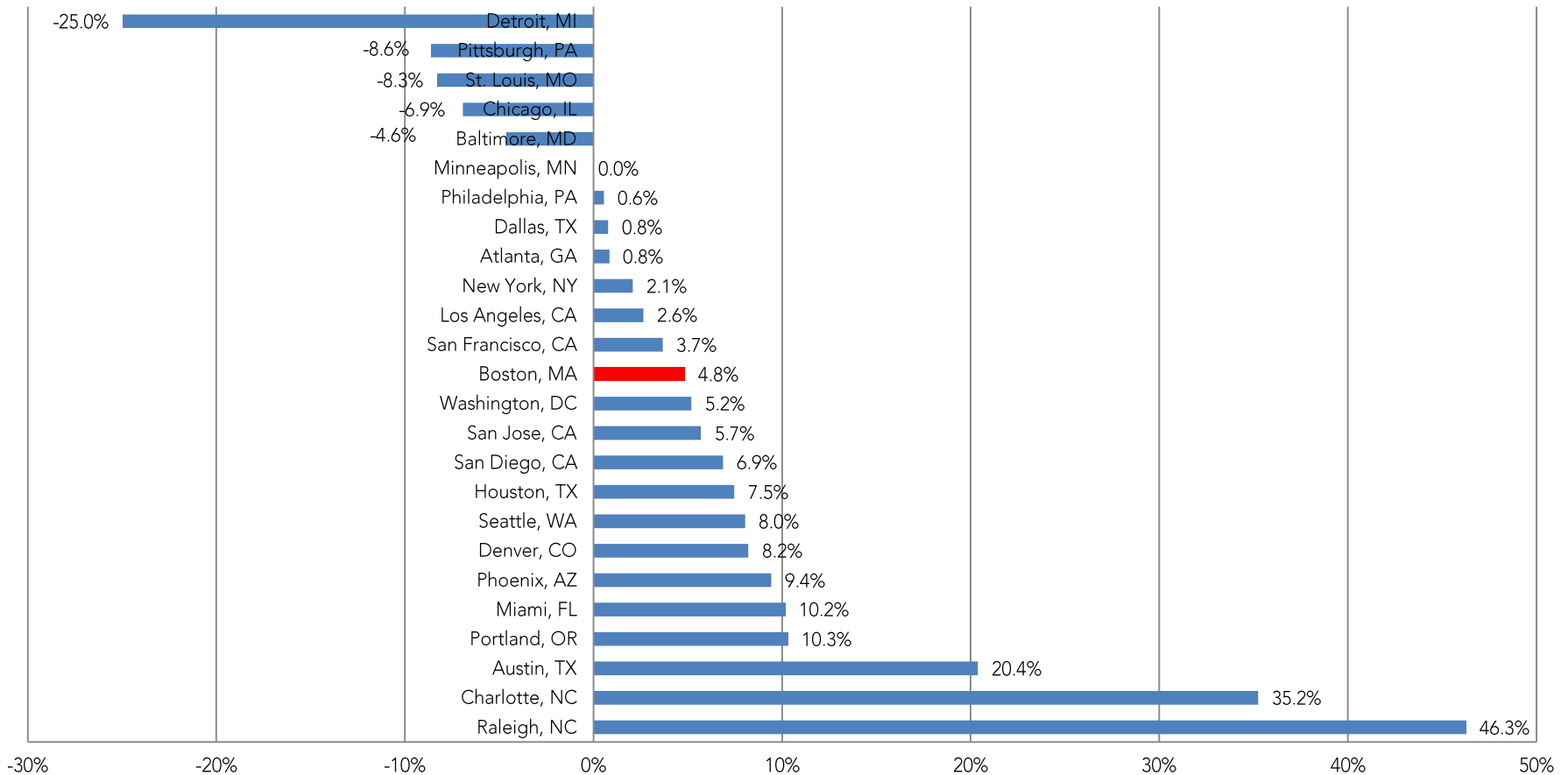
Population Growth for Boston and Massachusetts by Decade (1910 – 2010)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1910-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, MetroBoston DataCommon, Population by Decade for the MetroFuture Region, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Boston's population growth between 2000 and 2010 compares favorably to most Northern cities. Other cities on this list – including Charlotte, Raleigh and Austin – benefit from their states' liberal land annexation laws, which allow them to expand their populations by annexing adjacent land

### Population Growth with Comparison Cities\* (2000 - 2010)

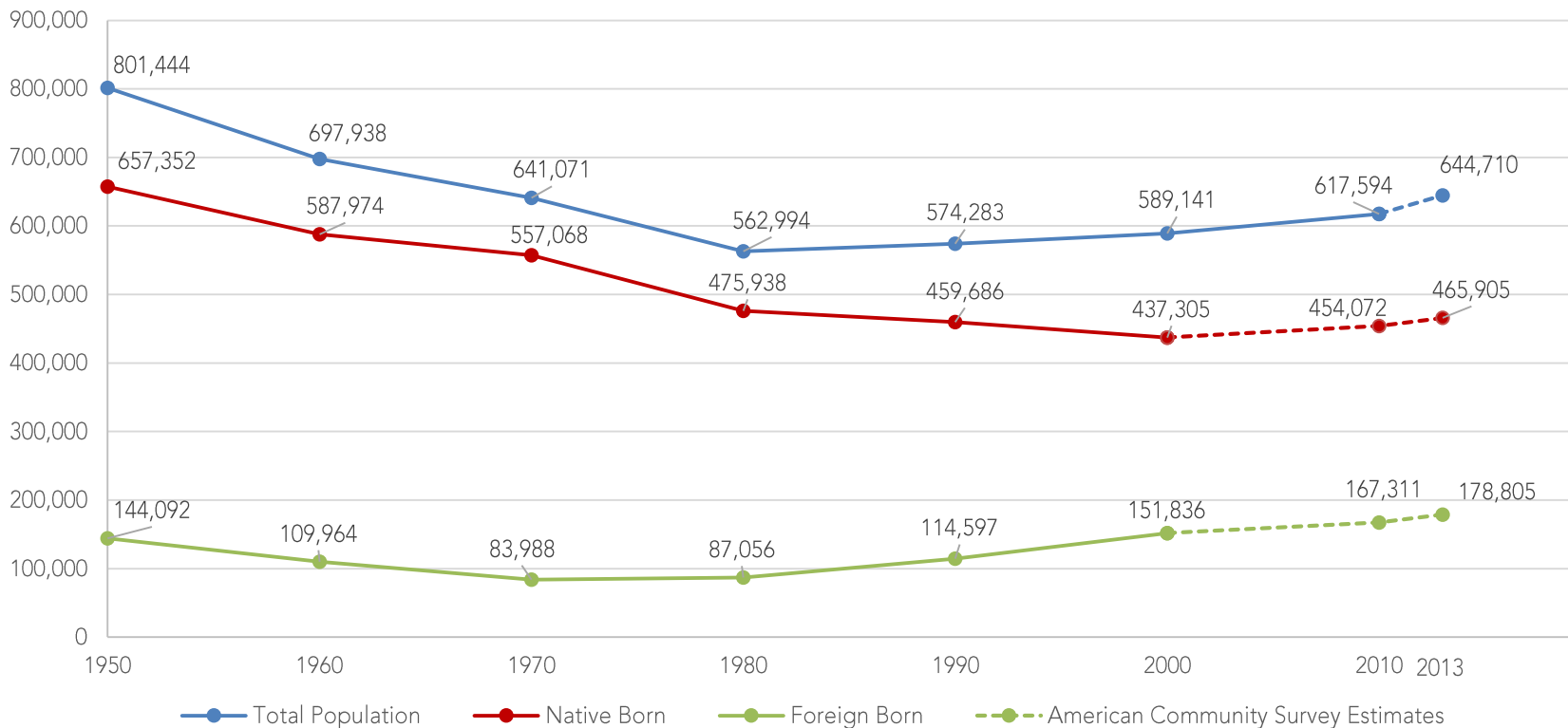


This report's consistent set of 25 comparison cities: the principal cities of the nation's largest metropolitan areas, plus 3 cities whose highly educated metro area populations make them good comparisons for Boston. These include Raleigh, Austin and San Jose.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 U.S. Decennial Census, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Boston's native-born population decreased from 1950 to 2000, but increased by 6.5% to 465,905 from 2000 to 2013
- In contrast, Boston's foreign-born population has increased steadily since 1970, accounting for much of the city's population growth over the last five decades

Native and Foreign-born Components of Boston's Population (1950-2013)

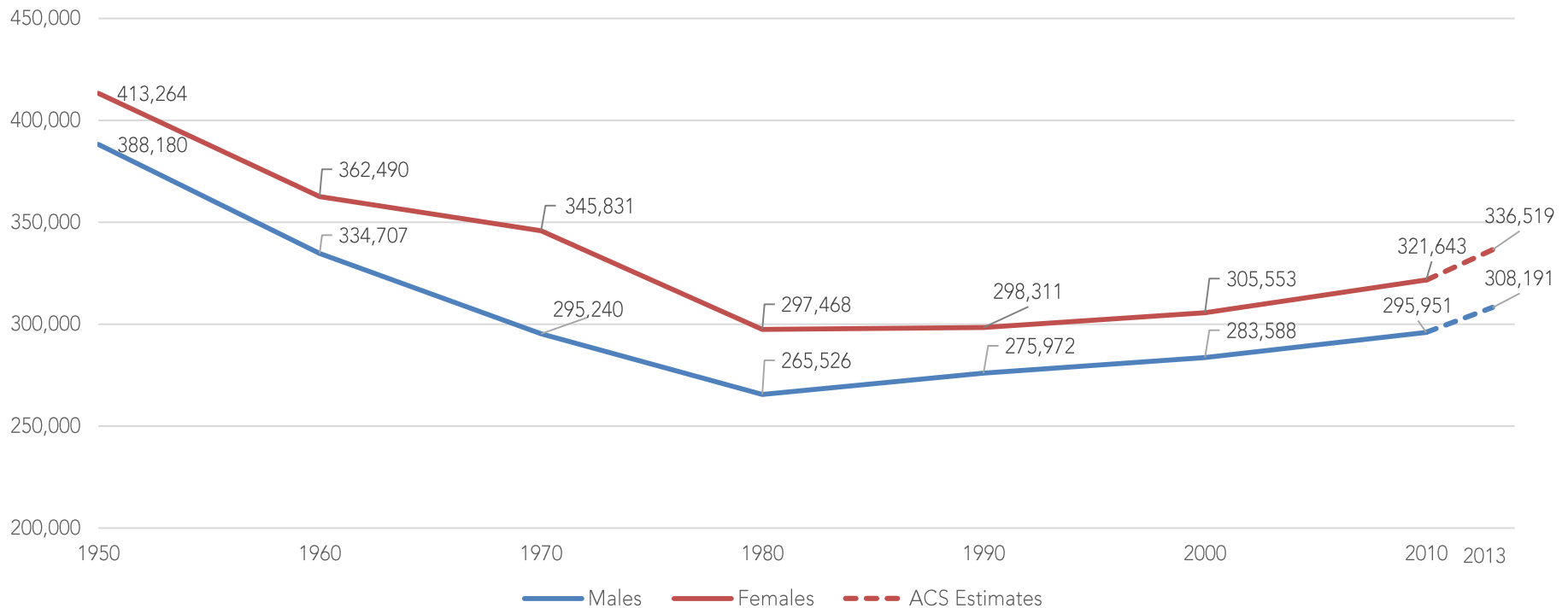


Note: Subtotals may not exactly add to total due to differences in data sources  
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2010 & 2013 1-year estimates, American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis



- In 2010, Boston's population was 52% female, a higher proportion than the US and Massachusetts (50.8% and 51.6% respectively)
- Between 2000 and 2010, the female population in Boston grew by 5.3%, while the male population grew slightly slower at 4.4%

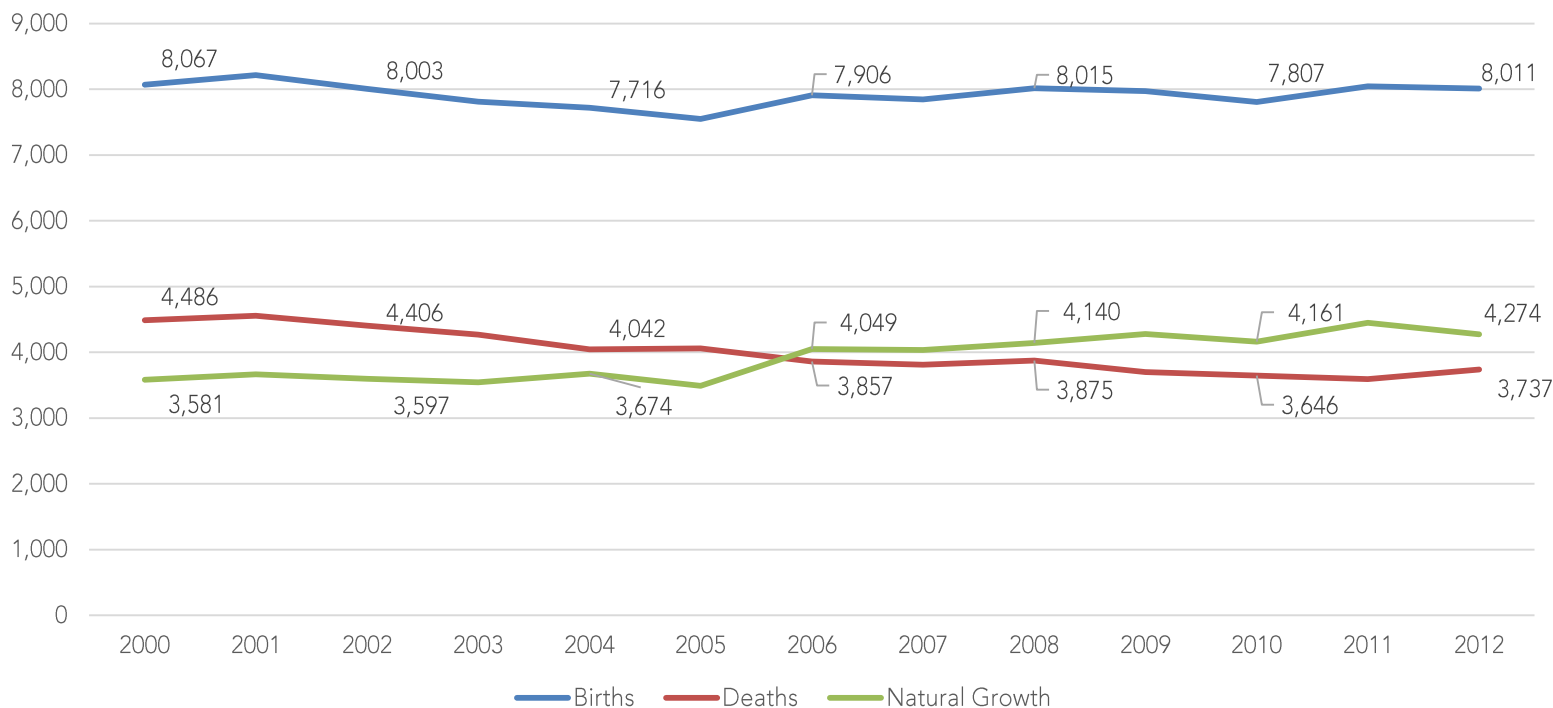
Gender Component of Boston's Population (1950-2013)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2013 1-Year American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Demographic growth is based on (a) natural growth -- births minus deaths -- and (b) net migration
- Natural growth in 2012 was 4,274 persons. The decline in deaths over the decade contributed to an increase in natural growth
- Immigration also drives Boston's population growth in part because of the high number of births to immigrants - 40% of Boston births are to foreign-born mothers

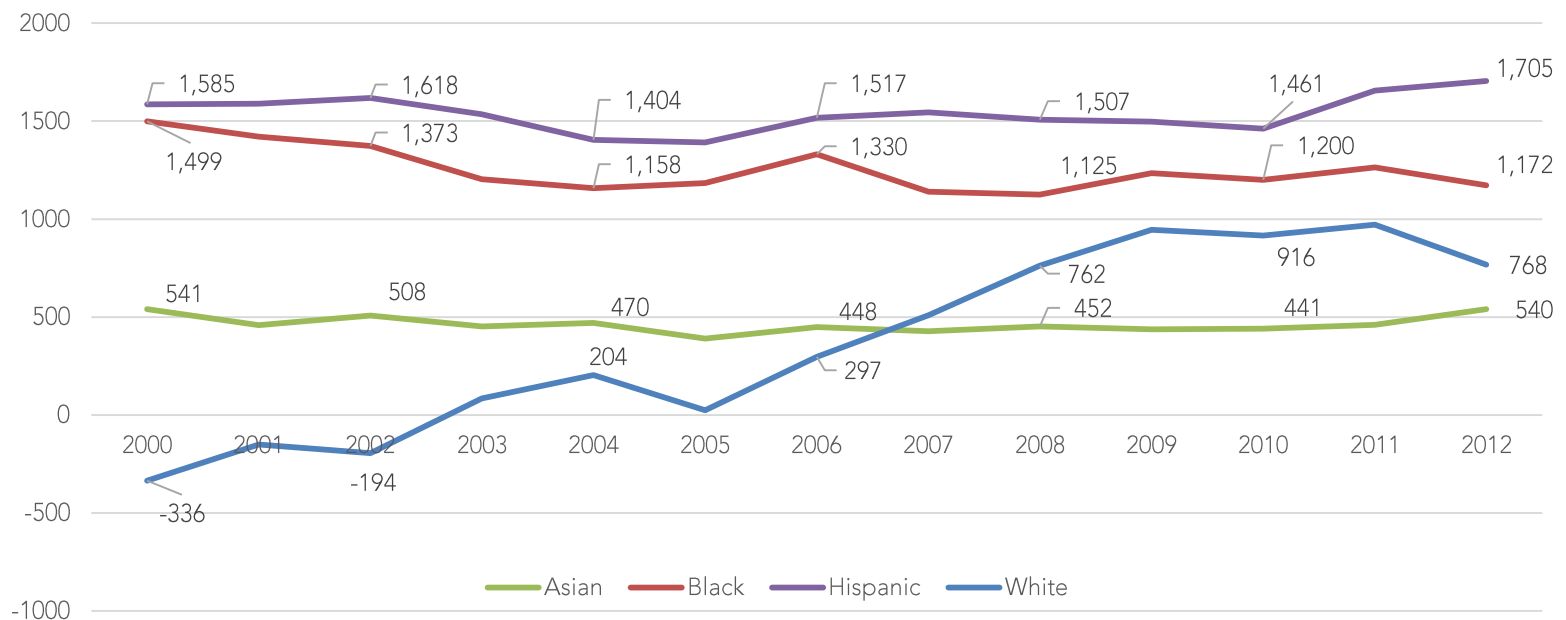
Boston Resident Births and Death (2000-2012)



Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Boston Public Health Commission Research and Evaluation Office

- The natural population growth of the White population went from negative in 2000 to positive in 2003 and continued to grow through 2012
- The natural population growth of the Black/African American population remained positive but decreased due to a lower number of births
- The natural population growth of the Latino population remained high, at 1,705 in 2012
- Asian natural growth remained steady over the periods 2000-2012

Boston Natural Population Growth by Race and Ethnicity (2000-2012)

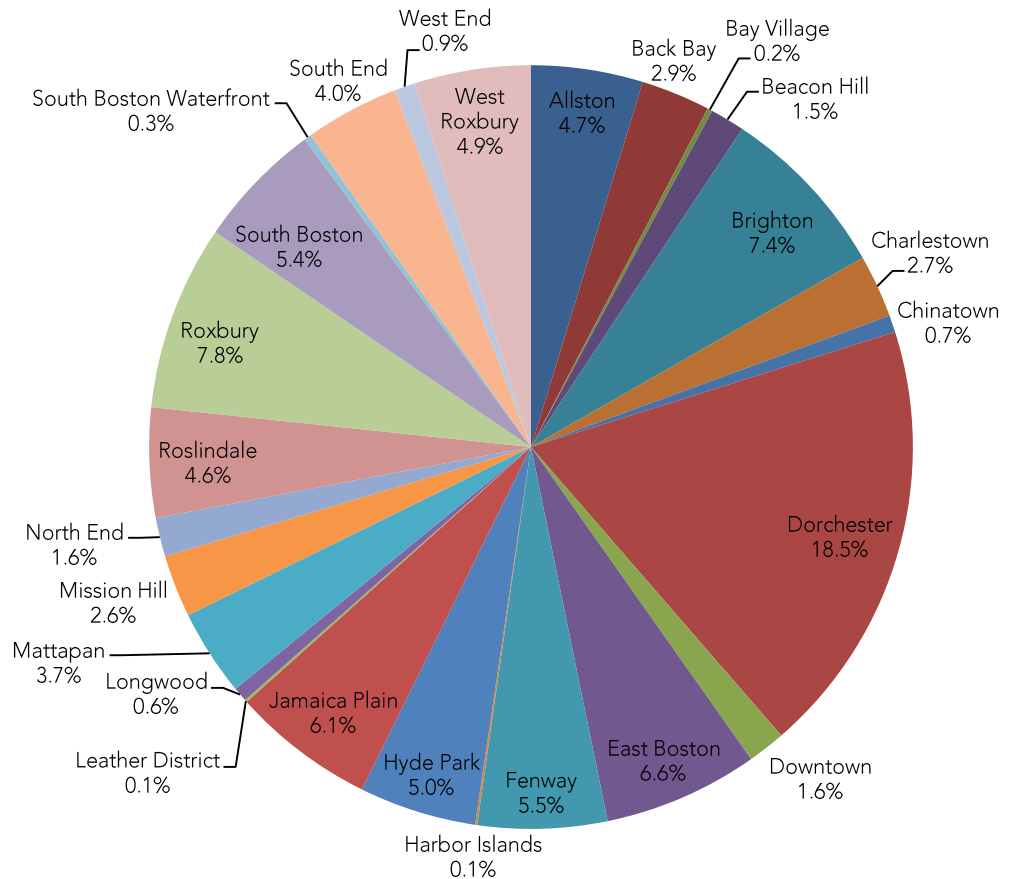


Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Boston Public Health Commission Research and Evaluation Office

- Dorchester is by far the largest neighborhood, followed by Roxbury and Brighton
- The top eight largest neighborhoods together comprise more than 60% of the city's total population

NEIGHBORHOOD	POPULATION (2010)
DORCHESTER	114,235
ROXBURY	48,454
BRIGHTON	45,801
EAST BOSTON	40,508
JAMAICA PLAIN	37,468
FENWAY	33,796
SOUTH BOSTON	33,311
HYDE PARK	30,637
WEST ROXBURY	30,446
ALLSTON	29,196
ROSLINDALE	28,680
SOUTH END	24,577
MATTAPAN	22,600
BACK BAY	18,088
CHARLESTOWN	16,439
MISSION HILL	16,305
NORTH END	10,131
DOWNTOWN	9,872
BEACON HILL	9,023
WEST END	5,423
CHINATOWN	4,444
LONGWOOD	3,785
SOUTH BOSTON WATER FRONT	1,889
BAY VILLAGE	1,312
LEATHER DISTRICT	639
HARBOR ISLANDS	535

Population Share by Neighborhood - 2010

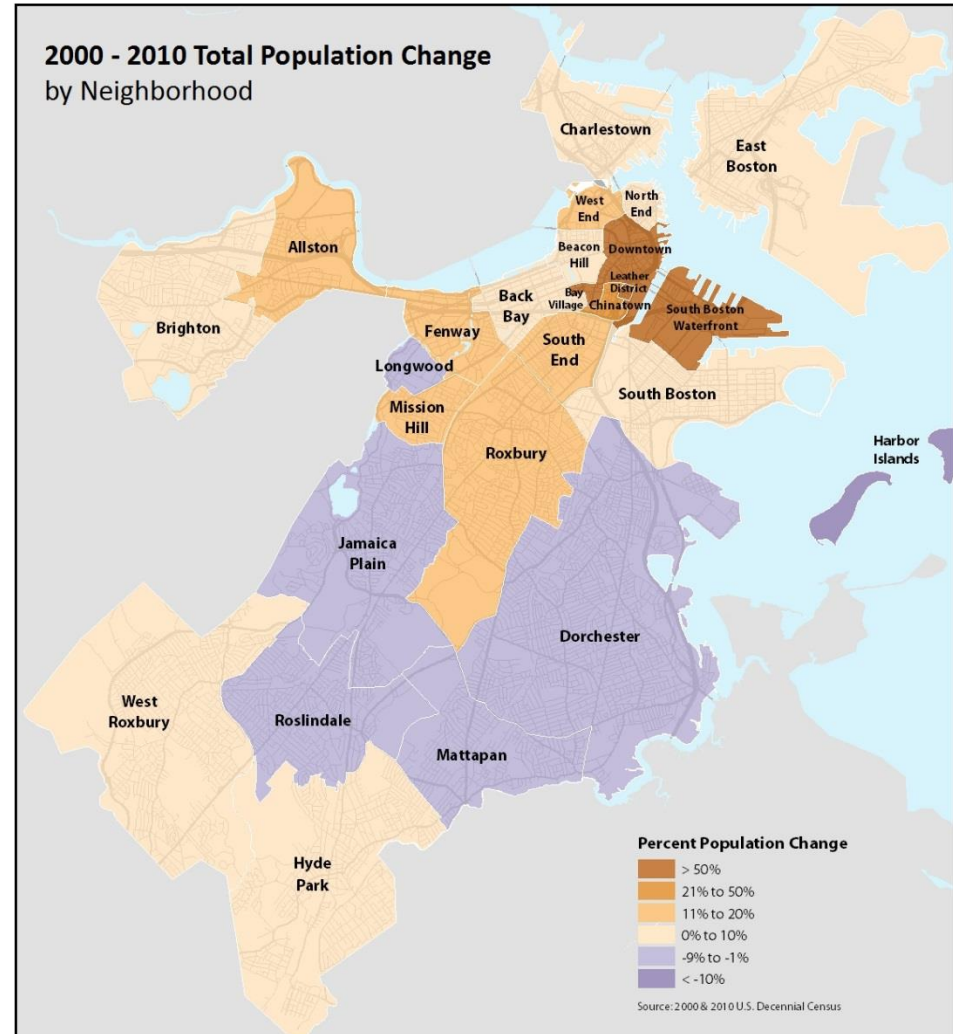


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 U.S. Decennial Census, BRA Research Division Analysis



# POPULATION CHANGE, 2000-2010

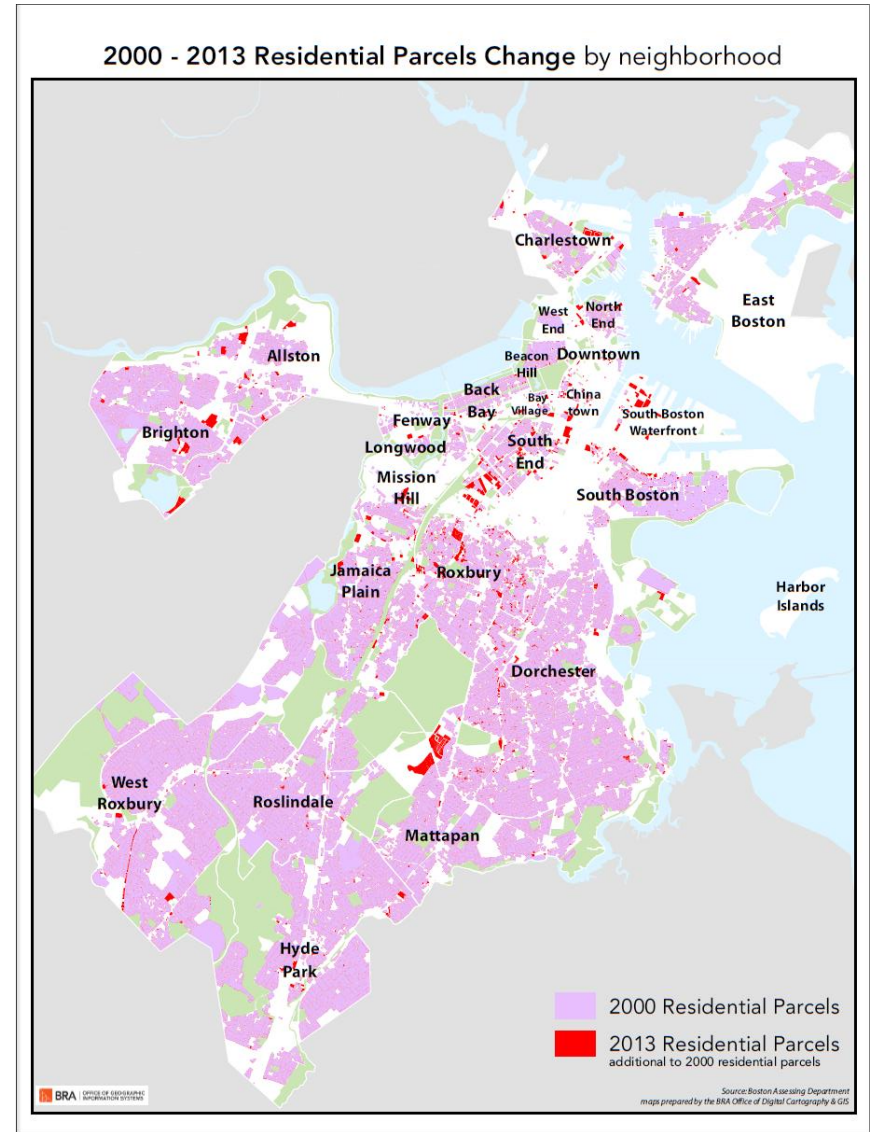
- The South Boston Waterfront saw a residential population boom from 2000 to 2010 – 1,380 people, for a growth rate of 271%
- 65.2% of Boston's population growth between 2000 and 2010 came from four neighborhoods: Roxbury, Fenway, Allston and Downtown
- Dorchester, Mattapan, Jamaica Plain, Longwood, and Beacon Hill lost the most population between 2000 and 2010, but all five gained population between 2010 and 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, BRA Research Division Analysis

- From 2000 to 2013, Boston increased residential parcels in the city by 19,719,950 square feet, or 4.8%. Neighborhoods like the South Boston Waterfront and Downtown/Chinatown saw greater growth, at 210% and 39.5%, respectively. Only two neighborhoods -- Longwood (-1.4%) and Hyde Park (-0.2%) – experienced declines in residential parcels

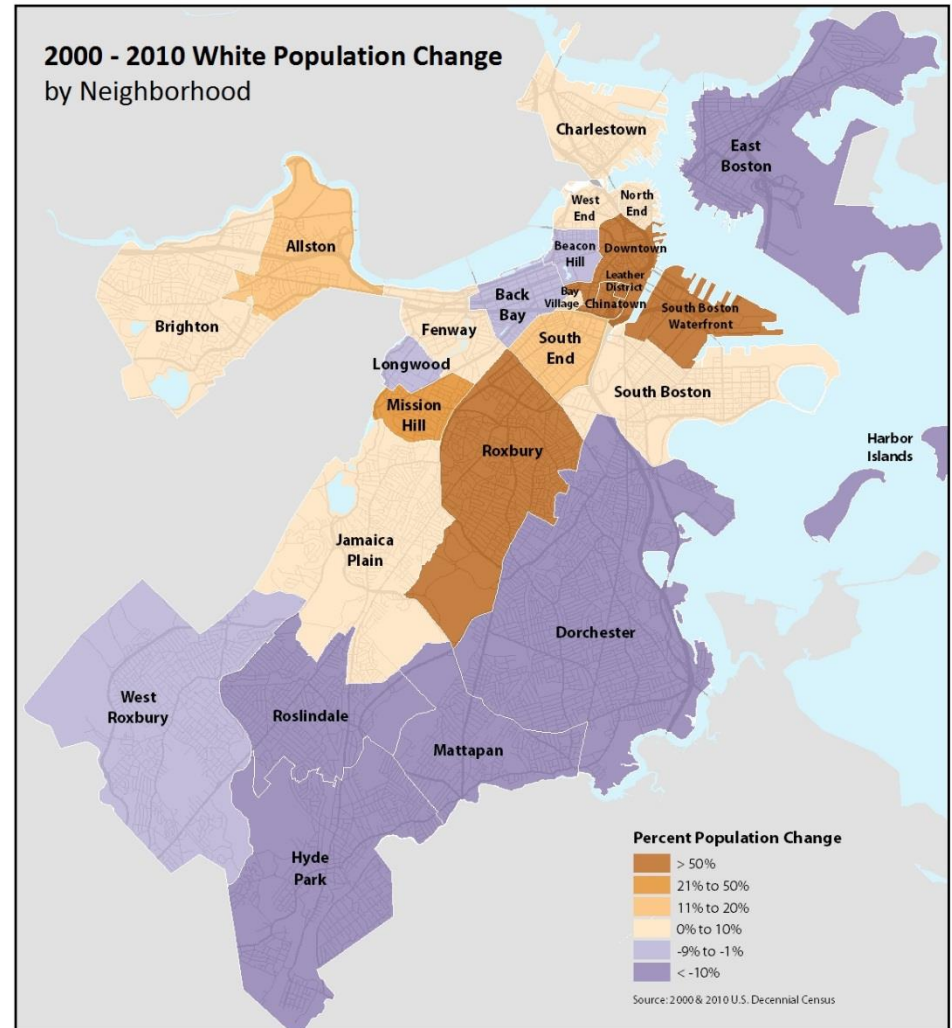
Neighborhood	Population Density -- 2013 Persons per square mile of residential land	Percentage Change in Density, 2000-2013
Longwood	2,337,453	31.8%
West End	299,702	-18.2%
Fenway	268,630	6.6%
Downtown/Chinatown	216,914	3.6%
North End	129,318	-4.6%
South End	122,890	-3.6%
Back Bay	115,443	-2.6%
Beacon Hill	113,743	-0.5%
Mission Hill	92,023	-5.6%
Allston	91,102	-2.0%
South Boston Waterfront	45,977	-40.5%
Charlestown	73,823	0.8%
South Boston	71,964	6.6%
East Boston	67,726	11.2%
Roxbury	49,435	-3.8%
Brighton	35,963	-16.0%
<b>BOSTON</b>	<b>40,772</b>	<b>1.9%</b>
Dorchester	38,532	-2.6%
Jamaica Plain	30,881	0.9%
Mattapan	27,566	-4.4%
Roslindale	23,447	3.4%
Hyde Park	17,610	4.3%
West Roxbury	13,693	7.4%



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 U.S. Decennial Census, 2009-2013 American Community Survey; City of Boston Assessor's Data, BRA Research Division Analysis

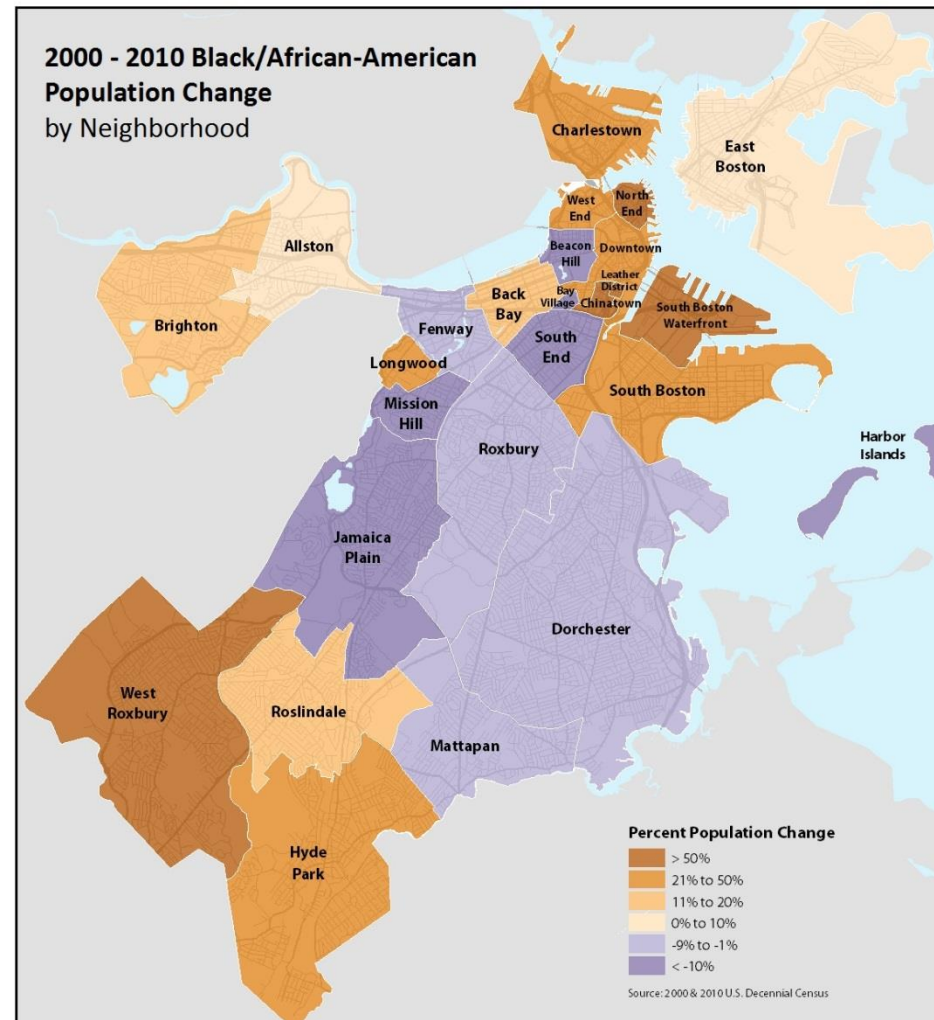
# WHITE POPULATION CHANGE, 2000-2010

- Boston's white population shrank slightly (-0.4%) between 2000 and 2010, compared to a small increase of 1.2% nationwide
- In absolute terms, the white population grew most in Roxbury, Downtown, the South End, Mission Hill and Allston
- Hyde Park, Dorchester, Roslindale and West Roxbury saw the biggest absolute declines in the white population



# BLACK/AFRICAN-AMERICAN POPULATION CHANGE, 2000-2010

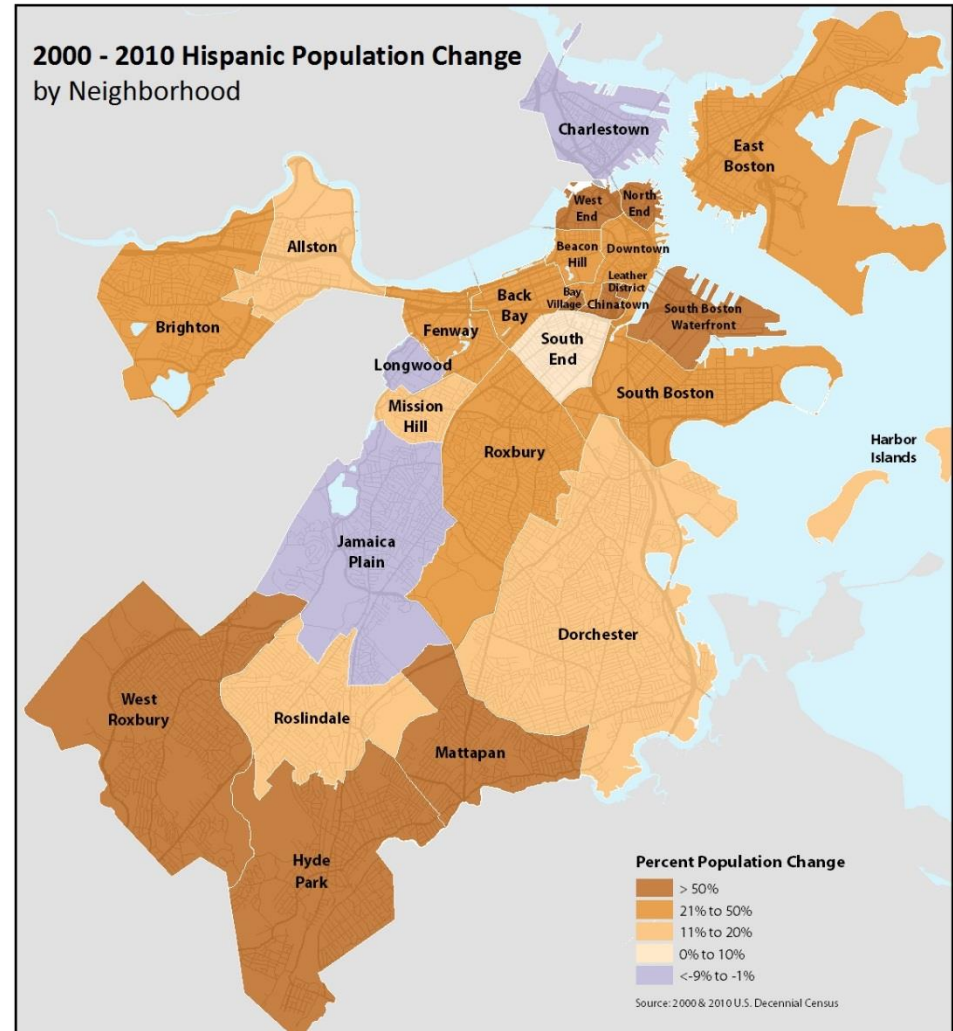
- Boston's Black/African-American population declined slightly (-1.6%) between 2000 and 2010, compared to an 11% increase nationwide
- In absolute terms, Hyde Park, West Roxbury, Roslindale, and South Boston saw the largest increases in the Black/African-American population
- Dorchester, Mattapan, Jamaica Plain, the South End, and Roxbury saw the largest declines





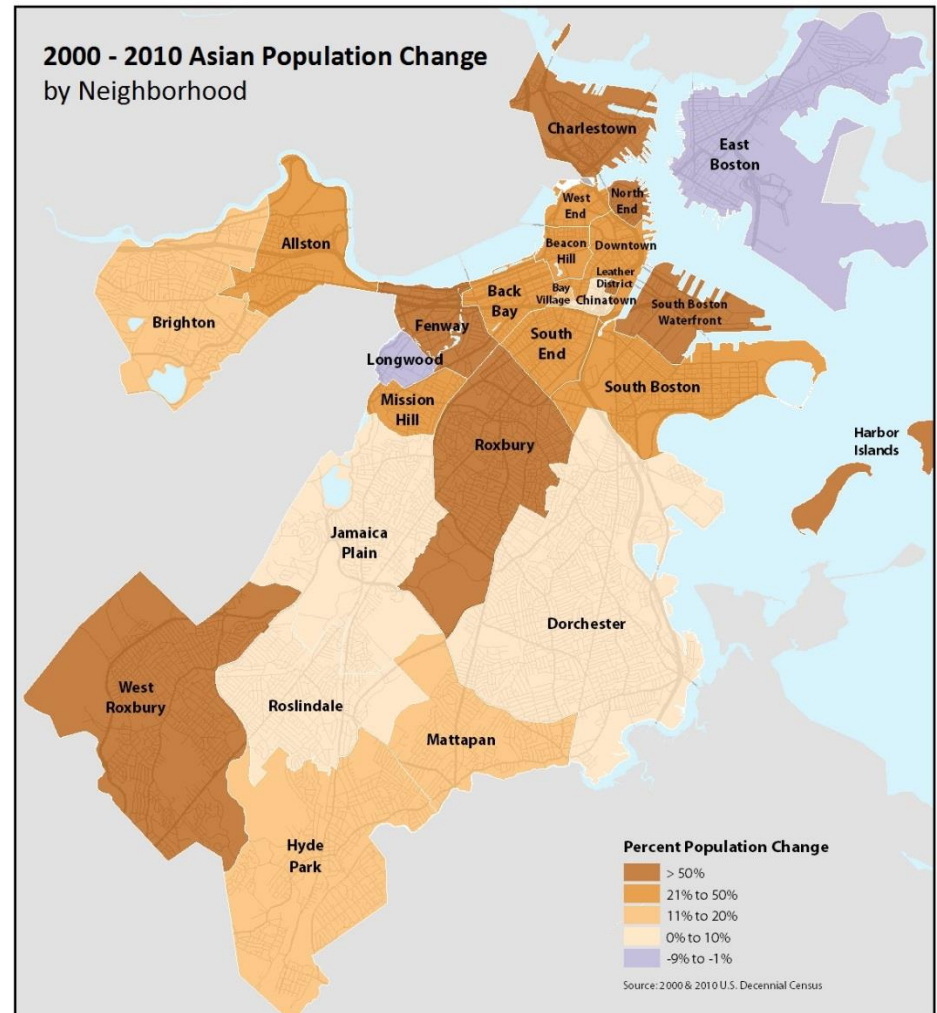
# HISPANIC POPULATION CHANGE, 2000-2010

- Boston's Hispanic population increased by 27% from 2000 to 2010, compared to a 43% increase nationwide
- In absolute terms, East Boston, Roxbury, Dorchester, Hyde Park, and West Roxbury saw the largest increases in the Hispanic/Latino population
- Jamaica Plain, Charlestown and Longwood lost Hispanic/Latino population



# ASIAN POPULATION CHANGE, 2000-2010

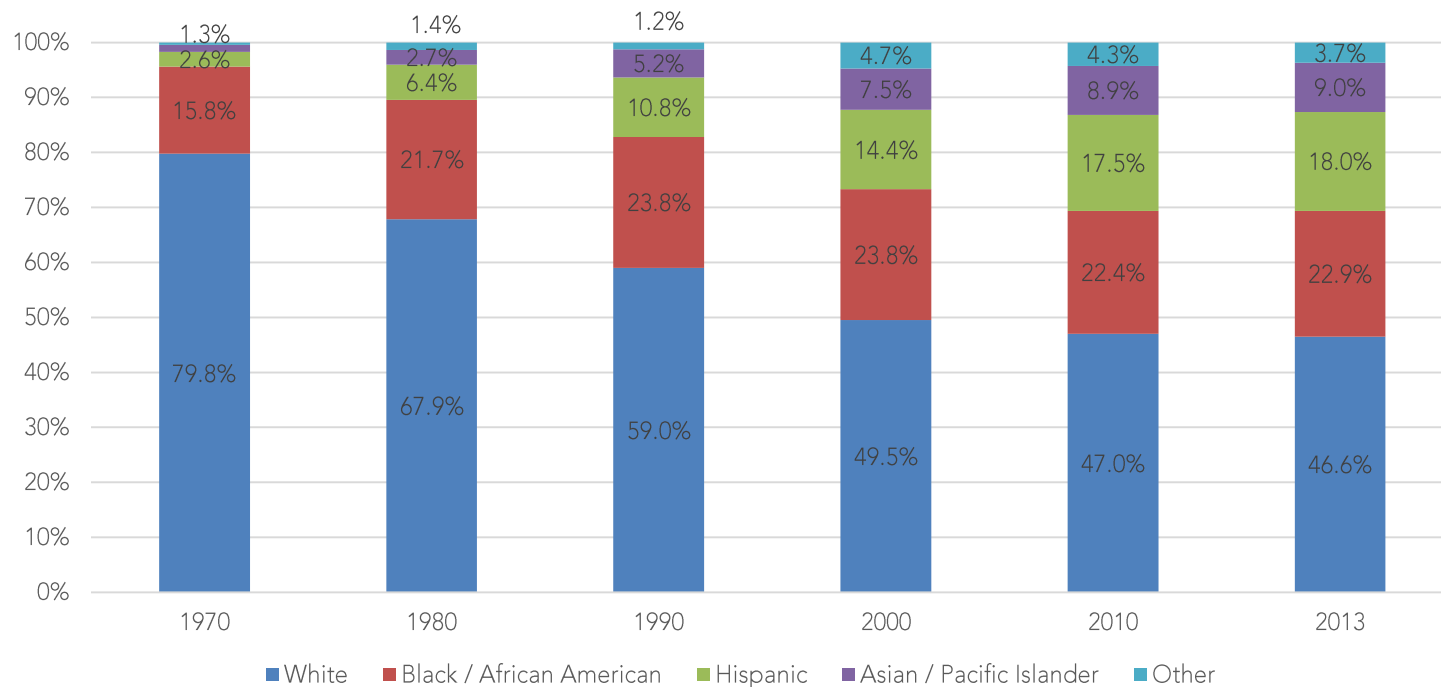
- Boston's Asian population grew by 25% from 2000 to 2010, compared to 43% nationwide
- In absolute terms, Fenway, Allston, the South End, West Roxbury and Dorchester saw the largest increases in the Asian population
- East Boston, Longwood and Roslindale lost Asian population



# A DIVERSE CITY

- Boston's White population decreased from 80% of the population in 1970 to 47% in 2010
- The share of the Hispanic/Latino population increased from 3% in 1970 to 18% of Boston's population in 2010
- The African American population shifted from 16% of the population in 1970 to 22% of the population in 2010
- Hispanic and Asian immigration contribute heavily to Boston's growing diversity

### Boston's Diverse Population 1970-2013

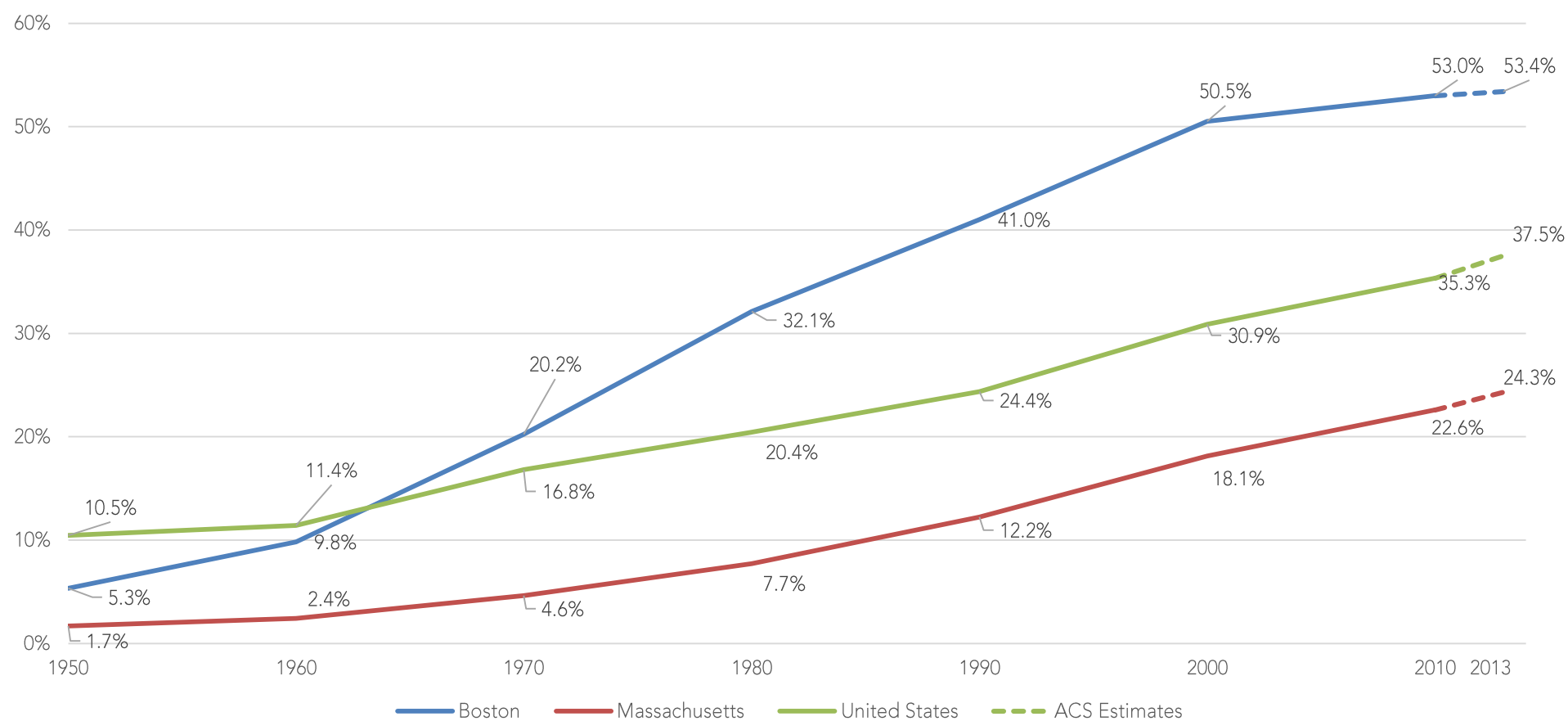


Note: 2000 was the first year the Census compiled data on individuals who identified themselves as multiracial. Those who indicated "two or more races" are included in "Other" in 2000 and 2010 in this chart. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970 -2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis



- The non-White share of Boston's population has increased dramatically since 1950 from 5.3% to 53% in 2010
- The minority share of Boston's population (53%) is higher than that of Massachusetts (22.6%) or the U.S. (35.3%)

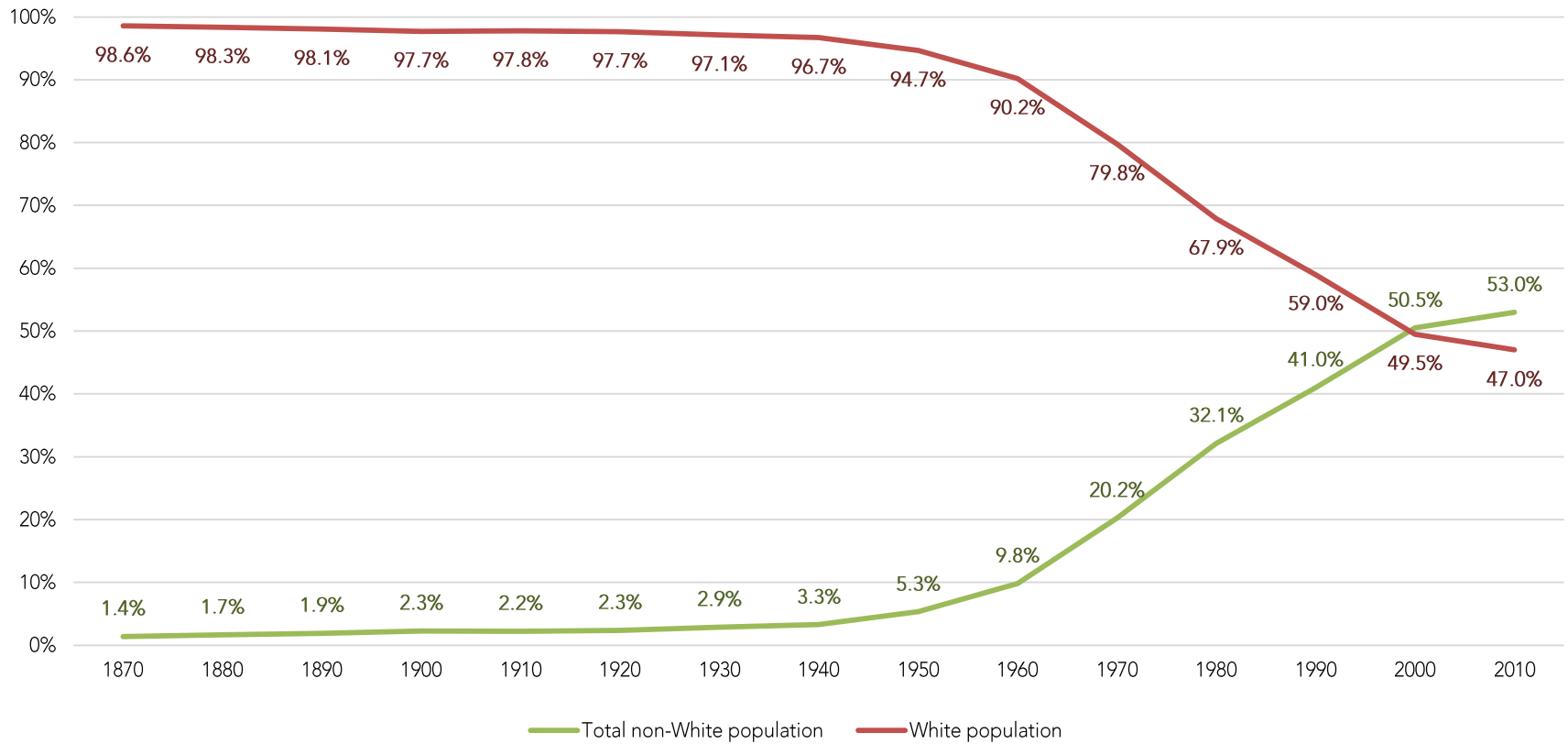
### Share of Boston's Non-White Population (1950-2013)



Note: Prior to 1970, Hispanics may be included in either the White or non-White category. For 1970-2010, Hispanics are included with non-Whites for this analysis  
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Since 2000, Boston has become a “majority-minority” city. The non-white population is over 50% partly due to the growth of the foreign-born population from Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia
- This trend continued in 2010 with the minority population making up 53% of Boston’s population or about 328,231 residents

### Boston's Minority Population 1870-2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1870-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, BRA Research Division Analysis

- The Racial Diversity Index calculates the likelihood that two people randomly chosen from a geographic area are from a different racial or ethnic group
- The Diversity Index shows that Boston and most of its neighborhoods, though not all of its neighborhoods, were more diverse in 2010 than in 2000
- The Racial Diversity Index for the city as a whole increased from .64 to .66 between 2000 and 2010

## Neighborhood Diversity Index (2000 - 2010)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 U.S. Decennial Census, BRA Research Division Analysis  
 Based on the methodology "Mapping the USA's diversity from 1960 to 2060" USA TODAY

# RACIAL DIVERSITY

- Racial diversity by census tract increased dramatically in most of Boston from 1970 to 2010
- In the maps below, yellow represents census tracts with low racial diversity index scores, while red represents census tracts with high racial diversity

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

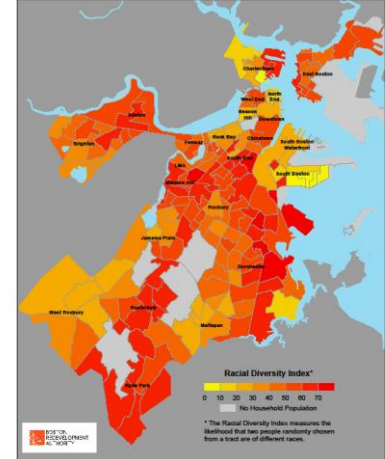
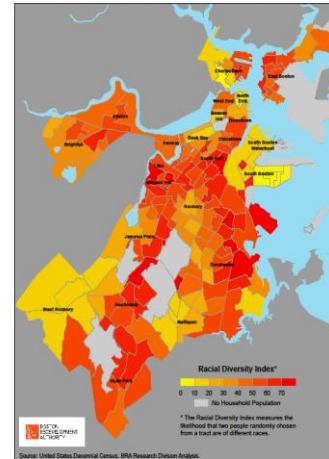
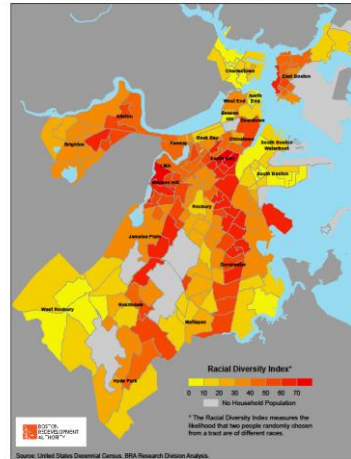
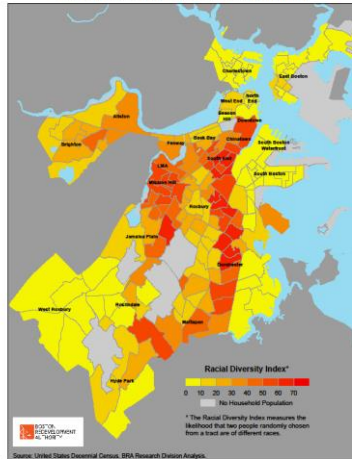
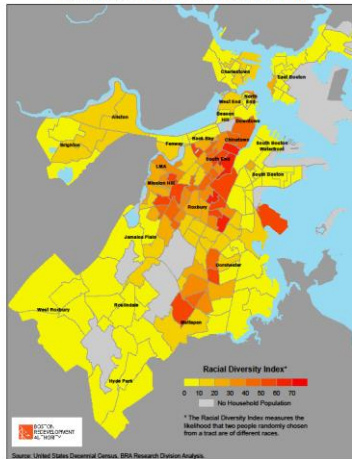
Racial Diversity by Census Tract, 1970

Racial Diversity by Census Tract, 1980

Racial Diversity by Census Tract, 1990

Racial Diversity by Census Tract, 2000

Racial Diversity by Census Tract, 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970 - 2010 U.S. Decennial Census, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Even though the city of Boston and its neighborhoods became more diverse, the African American population remained concentrated in the neighborhoods of Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan (areas colored red in the top row of maps). The one exception is Hyde Park where the African American population concentration increased
- The Hispanic population is more dispersed, though large communities have formed in East Boston and Jamaica Plain (colored red in the bottom row of maps)

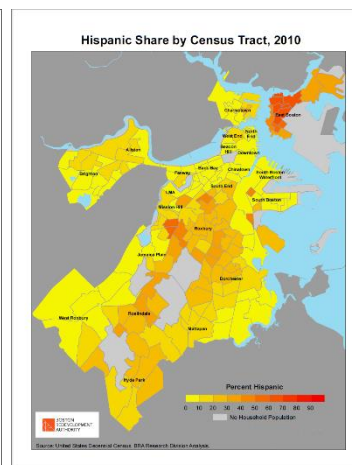
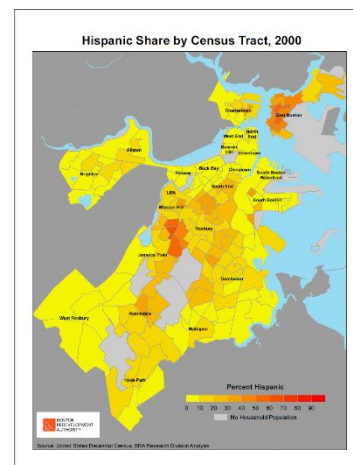
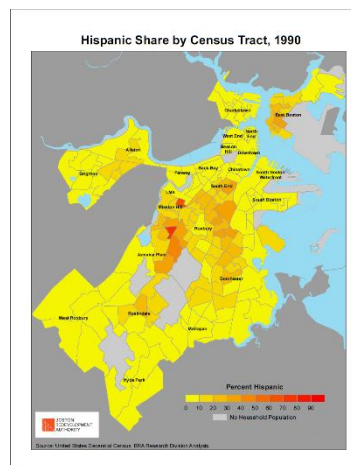
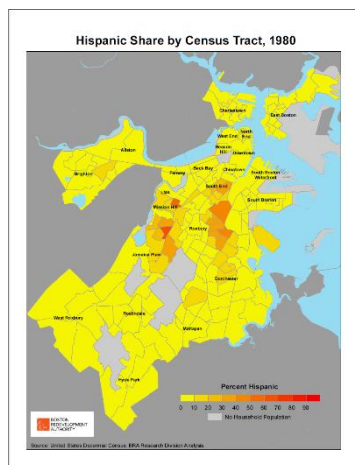
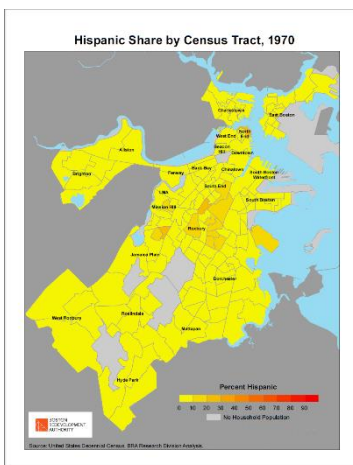
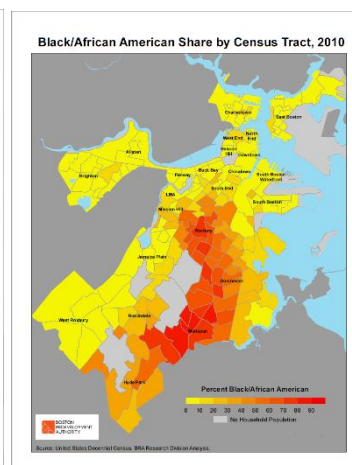
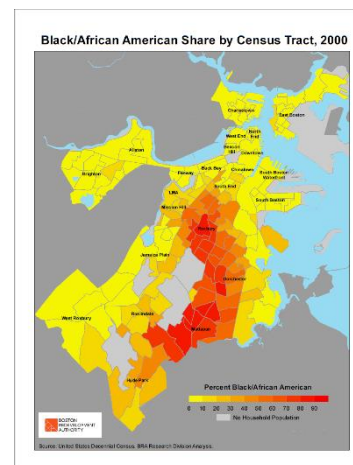
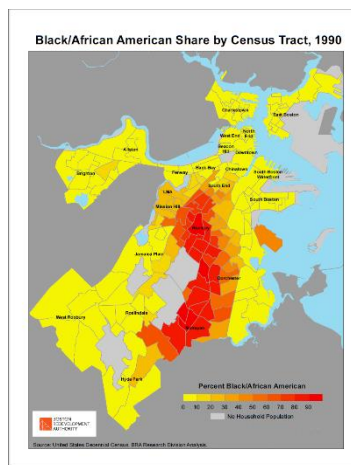
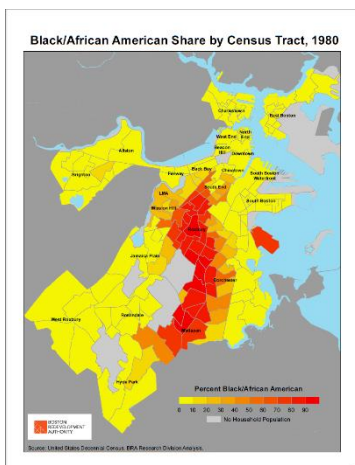
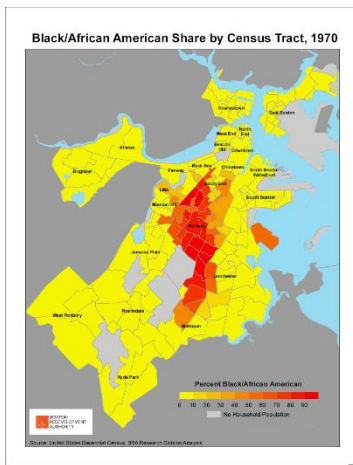
1970

1980

1990

2000

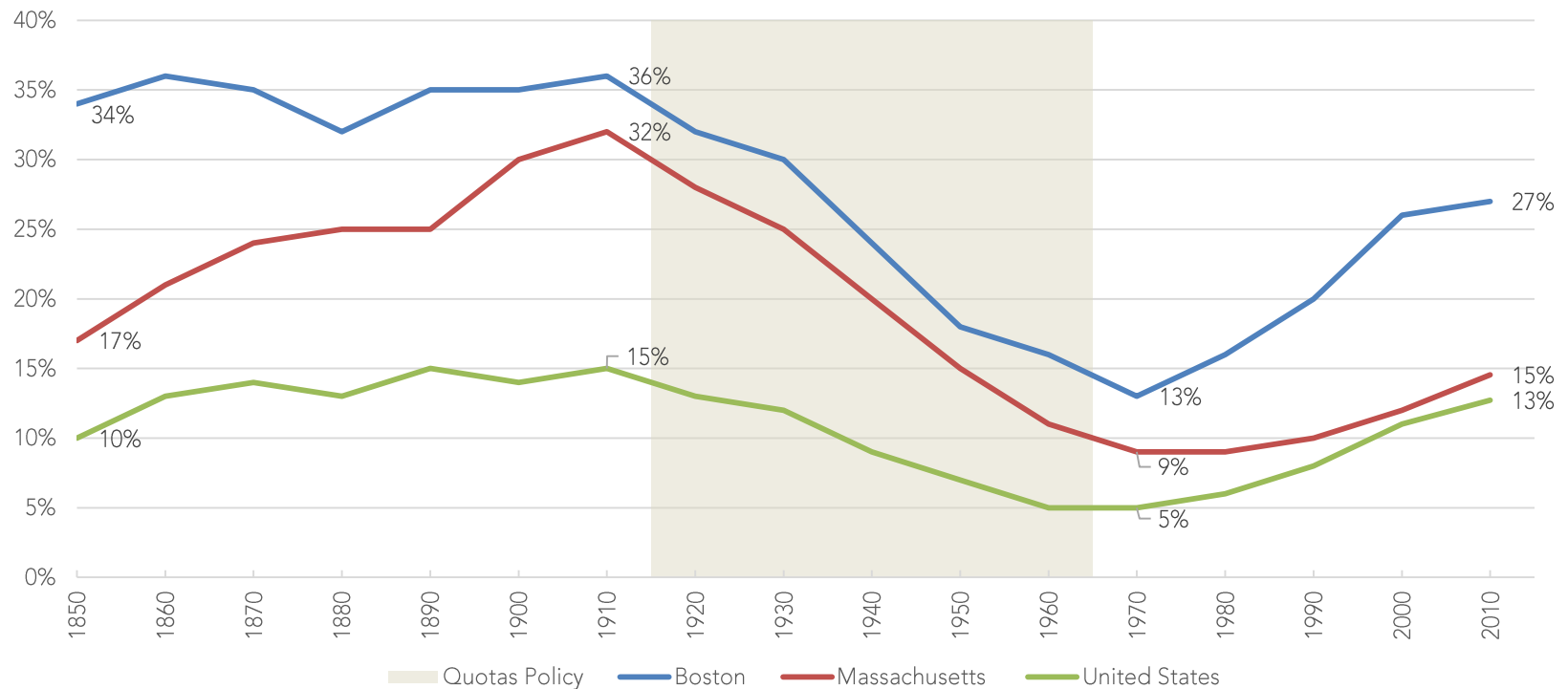
2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970 - 2010 U.S. Decennial Census, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Historically, Boston has had a greater proportion of foreign-born residents than both Massachusetts and the U.S.
- In 2013, Boston was home to 178,805 foreign-born people, 27.7% of Boston's population – a higher proportion than that of both Massachusetts (16%) and the U.S. (13%)
- In recent decades, the proportion of foreign-born residents in Boston has grown dramatically, from 12.6% in 1970 to 27.7% in 2013. However, this proportion is lower than the 36.3% peak share in 1910. The recent growth is due largely to the passage of the 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act, which ended quotas based on national origin
- Boston's foreign-born population increased 18% from 2000 to 2013, from 151,836 to 178,805

Proportion of Population that is Foreign-Born (1850-2010)

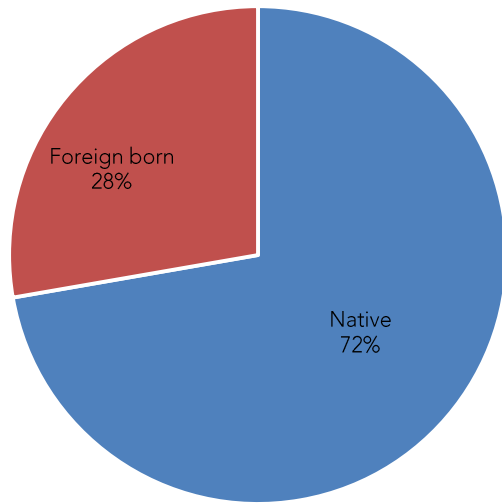


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1850-2000 U.S. Decennial Census, 2010 1-year American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis



- With 178,805 foreign-born residents in 2013, 27.7% of Boston's population was foreign-born. This ranks Boston highly when compared with other large U.S. cities

### Boston's Population by Nativity 2013



Foreign-born Rank	% of Foreign - born	City	Total Population Rank
1	56.6%	Miami, FL	22
2	39.3%	San Jose, CA	9
3	38.2%	Los Angeles, CA	2
4	37.0%	New York, NY	1
5	34.9%	San Francisco, CA	10
6	28.3%	Houston, TX	4
7	27.7%	Boston, MA	15
8	26.3%	San Diego, CA	7
9	24.4%	Dallas, TX	8
10	21.1%	Chicago, IL	3
11	19.7%	Phoenix, AZ	6
12	18.1%	Austin, TX	11
13	17.7%	Seattle, WA	16
14	16.1%	Minneapolis, MN	23
15	16.1%	Charlotte, NC	12
16	15.2%	Denver, CO	18
17	14.7%	Portland, OR	19
18	14.4%	Washington, DC	17
19	12.8%	Raleigh, NC	21
20	12.7%	Philadelphia, PA	5
21	8.3%	Pittsburgh, PA	25
22	7.2%	Atlanta, GA	20
23	7.1%	Baltimore, MD	14
24	6.9%	St. Louis, MO	24
25	5.0%	Detroit, MI	13

This report uses a consistent set of 25 US cities for all comparisons. See Slide 15 for more detail.  
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 1-year American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- The percentage of the population that is foreign-born has increased in most census tracts in Boston since 1970
- In the maps below, yellow census tracts have a foreign-born population of less than 10%
- In the red census tracts, foreign-born residents make up more than 60% of the population

1970

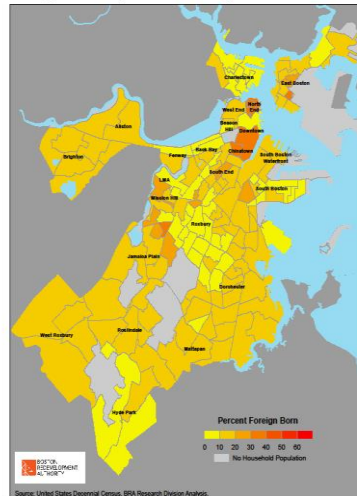
1980

1990

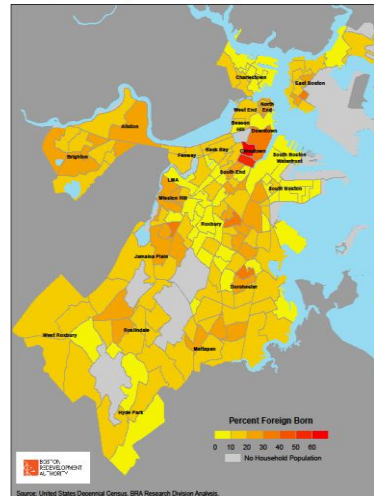
2000

2010

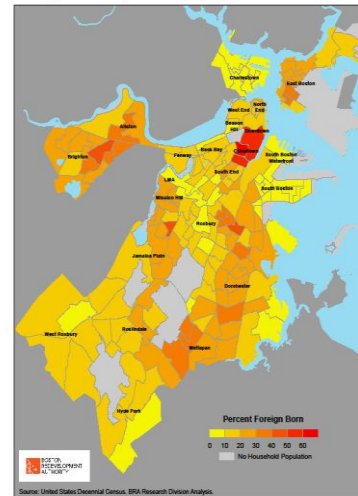
Foreign Born Population Share by Census Tract, 1970



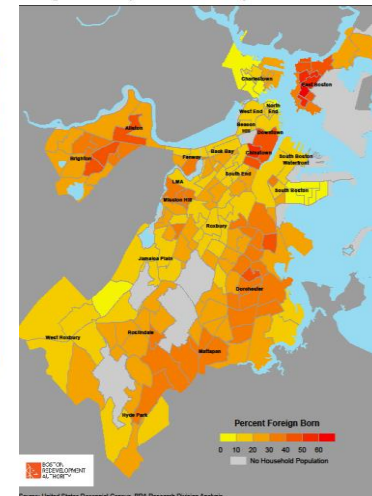
Foreign Born Population Share by Census Tract, 1980



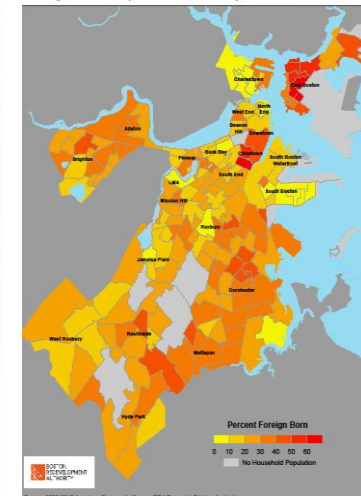
Foreign Born Population Share by Census Tract, 1990



Foreign Born Population Share by Census Tract, 2000



Foreign Born Population Share by Census Tract, 2010

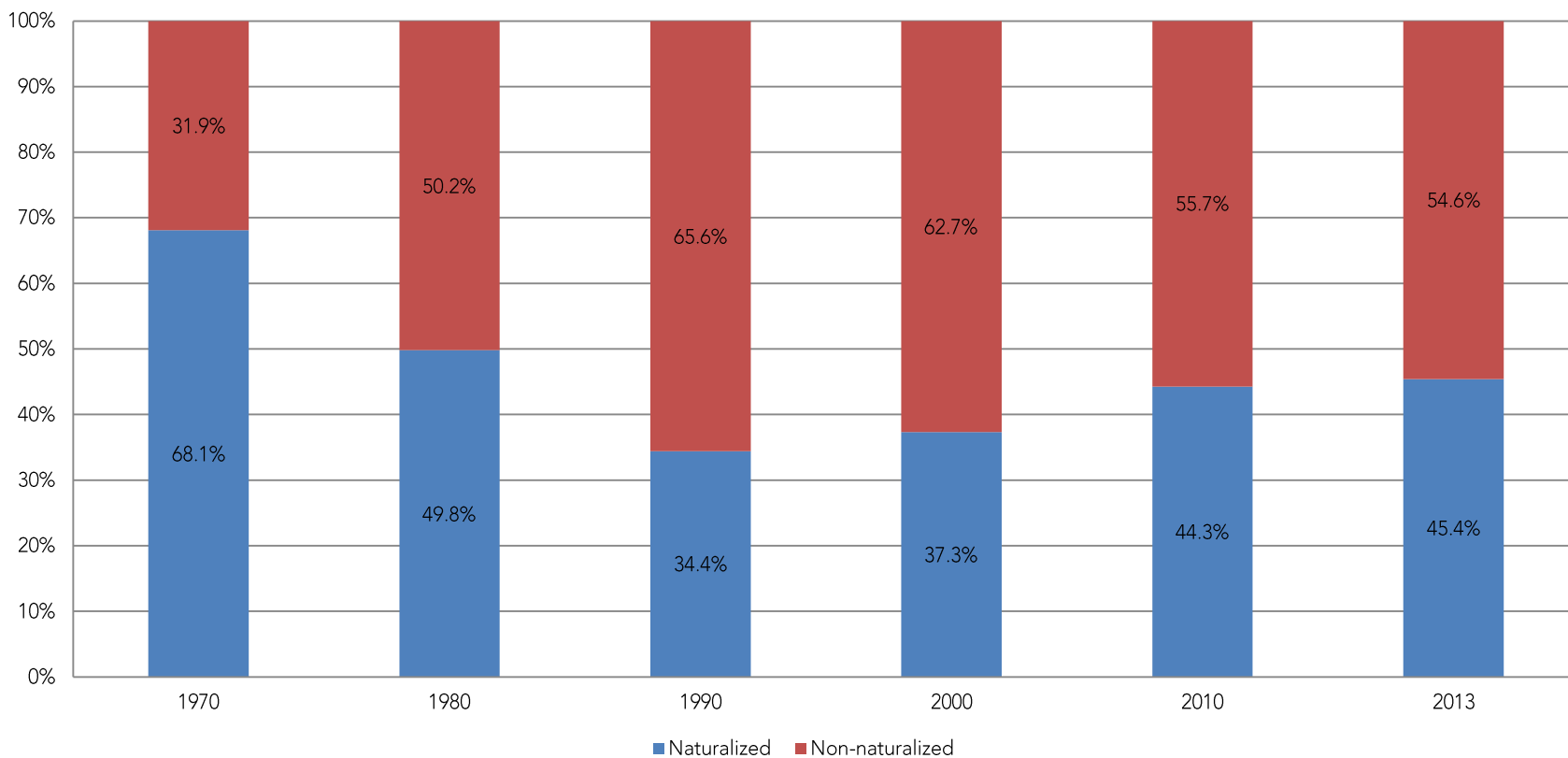


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970 - 2000 U.S. Decennial Census, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis



- In 2013, naturalized citizens made up 45.4% of Boston's foreign-born population, a much lower share than that of 1970 but a growing share of the foreign-born population since 1990
- The number of immigrants in Boston who were not citizens was 91,158 in 2013

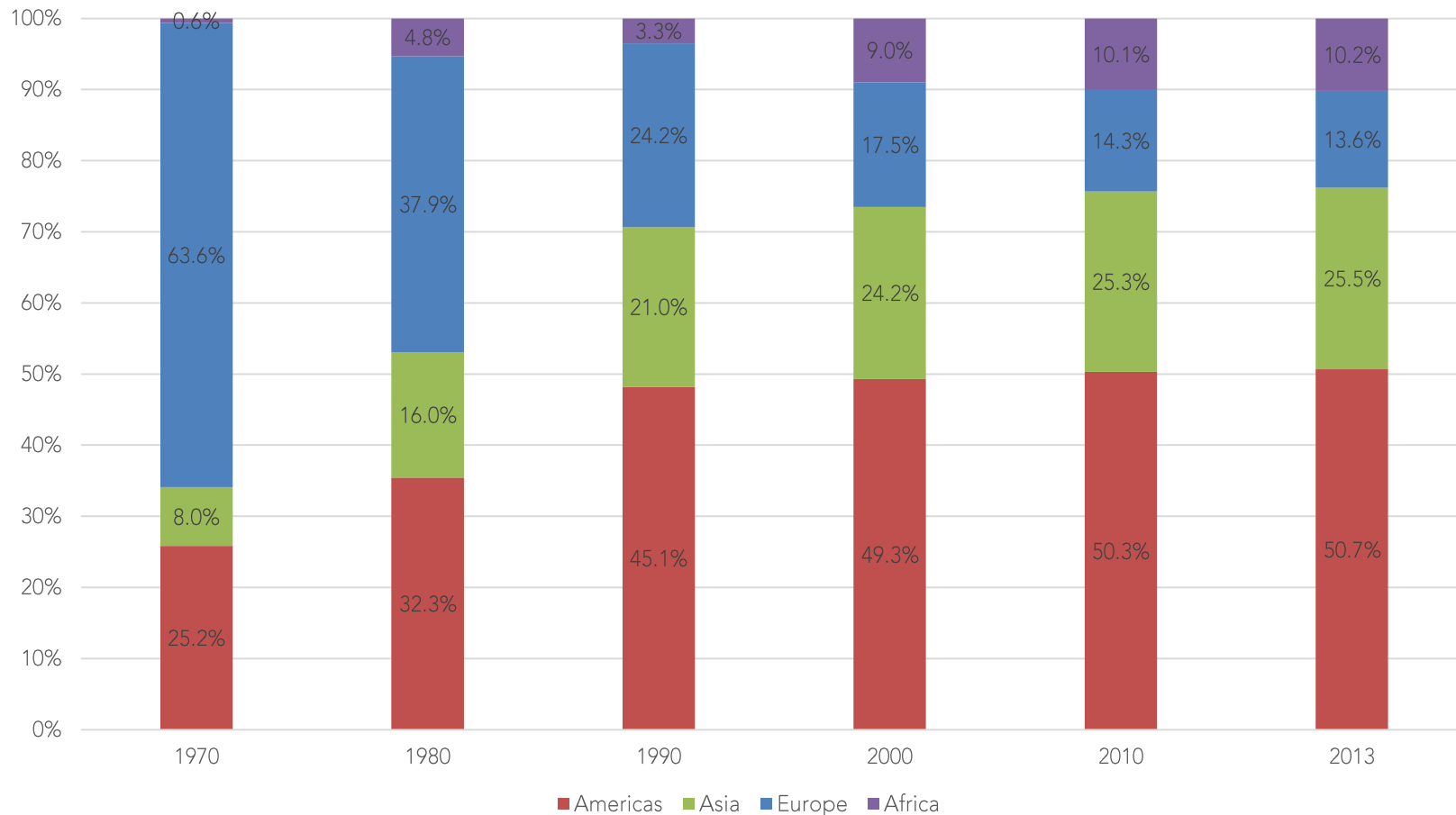
Boston's Foreign-born Population by Citizenship Status (1970 - 2013)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Decennial Census 1950-2000, 2006-2010 and 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Today, most of Boston's immigrants come from Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia. This is a dramatic change from 1970, when most immigrants came from Europe

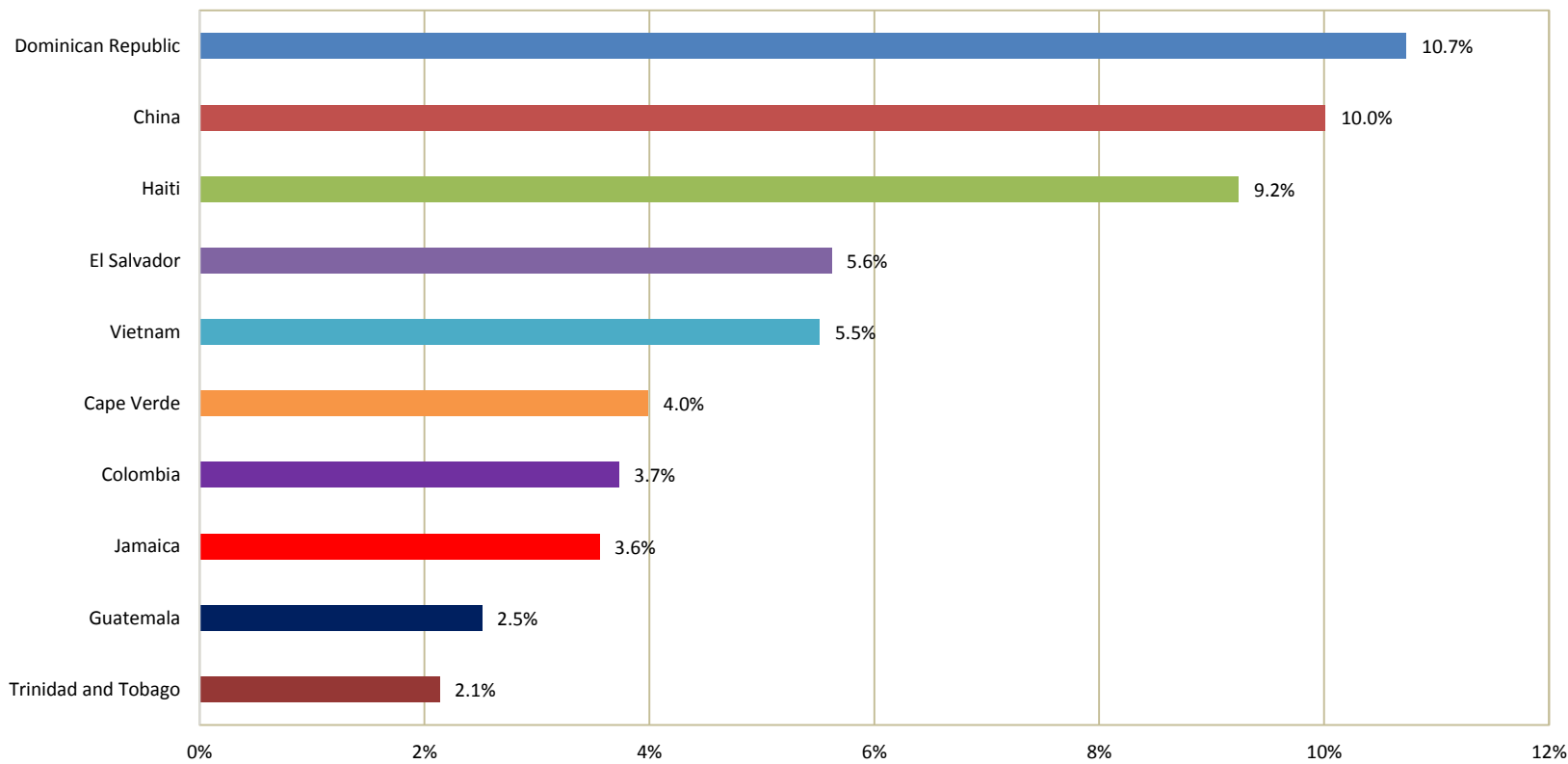
### Region of Origin of Boston's Immigrants



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970-2000 U.S. Decennial Census and 2006-2010 and 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Boston's foreign-born population comes from more than 100 countries. The Dominican Republic and China are the most common countries of origin for Boston's foreign-born population
- 43.5% of Hispanics and 68.1% of Asians in Boston are foreign-born
- The top ten countries of origin represent 57% of the total foreign-born population

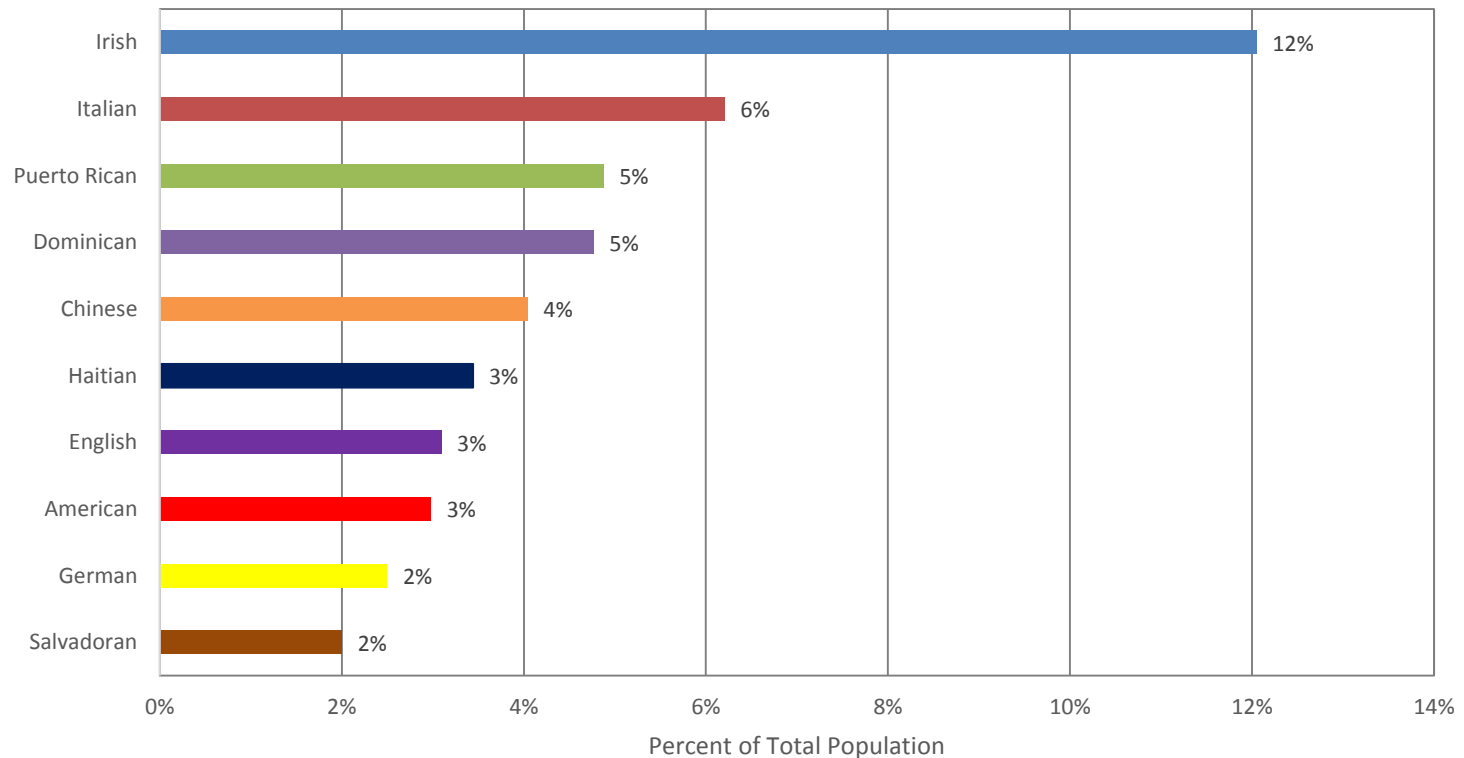
### Top Ten Countries of Origin of Boston's Foreign-born - 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Self-reported ancestries reflect earlier waves of immigration to Boston from Ireland, Italy, England, and Germany
- Puerto Rican, Dominican, Chinese, Haitian, and Salvadoran ancestries reflect more recent arrivals

### Top Ten Ancestries for Boston's Population – 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Boston's immigrant populations cluster together in particular neighborhoods. Boston's largest immigrant groups live in:

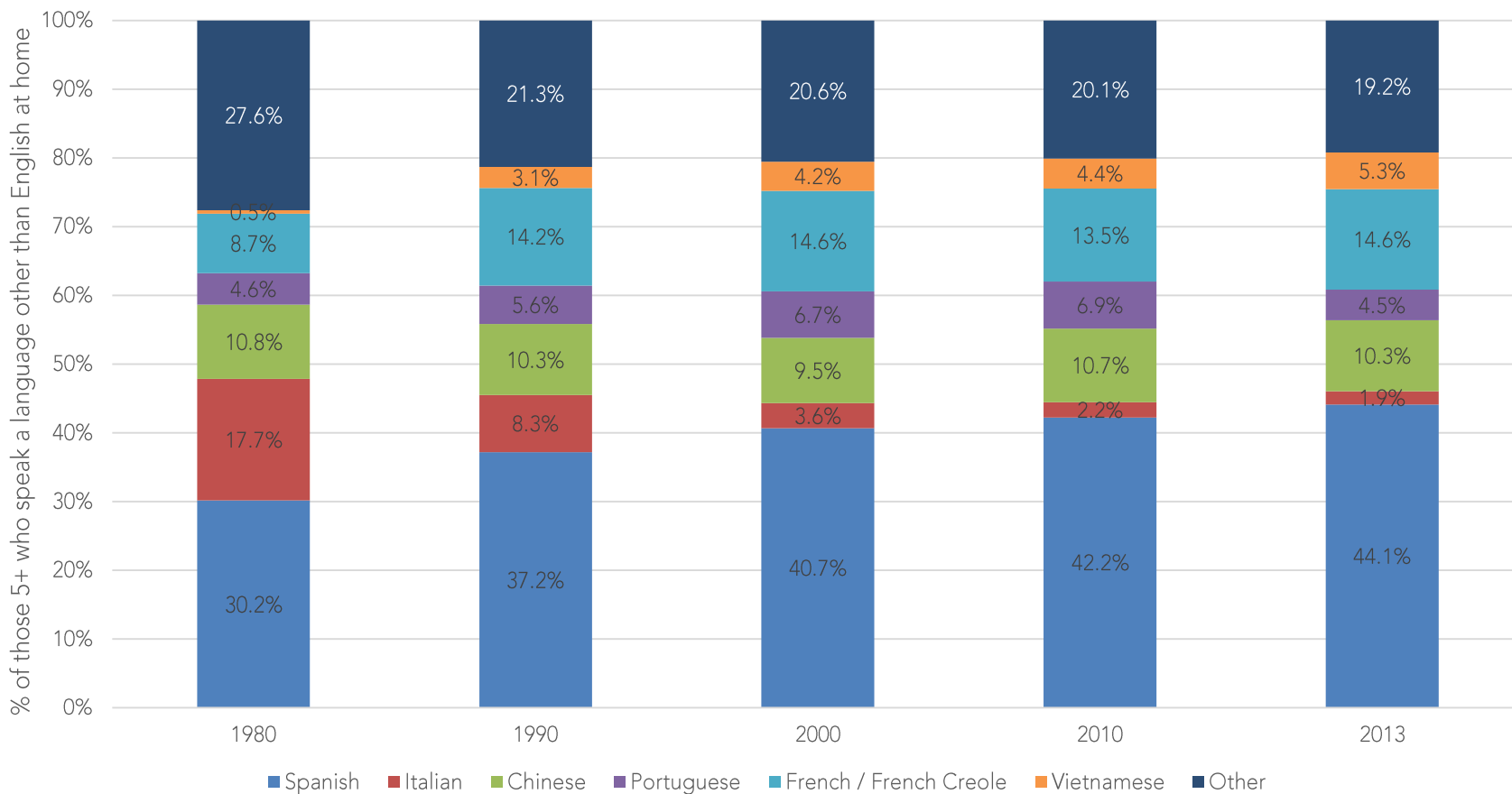
- Dominican
  - Jamaica Plain, Roxbury
- Chinese
  - Allston, Brighton, Downtown/Chinatown
- Haitian
  - Hyde Park, Mattapan, Roslindale
- El Salvadorian
  - East Boston
- Vietnamese
  - Dorchester



Source U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Of Bostonians age 5 and over who speak a language other than English at home, 44.1% speak Spanish, up from 30.2% in 1980
- The number of Italian speakers has declined since 1980 while French Creole and Vietnamese speakers have increased

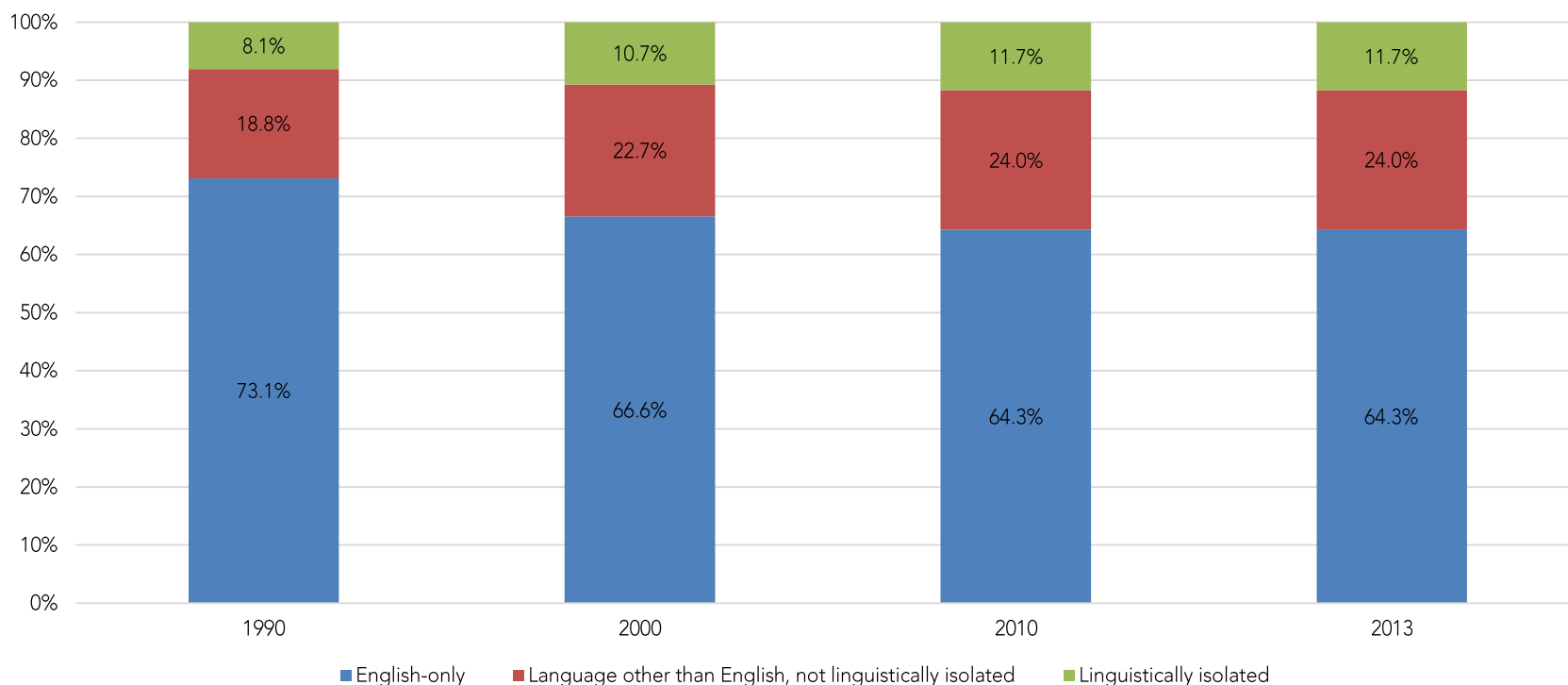
### Languages other than English Spoken at Home (1980-2013)



Source: U.S Census Bureau, 1980-2000 U.S. Decennial Census, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- In 2010, 12% of Boston households were linguistically isolated – no one 14 or older in the household spoke English at least very well – up from 8% of households in 1990
- Most linguistically isolated households are of Hispanic origin reflecting the growth of this population in the last decade
- 64% of Boston households only spoke English at home in 2010, down from 73% of households in 1990

### Linguistically Isolated Households in Boston (1990-2013)



Number of English-only speakers may not match previous slide due to differences in data sources

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990-2000 U.S. Decennial Census, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

# AN EDUCATED CITY





- Boston's population is more educated than the national average, with 43.9% of residents holding a Bachelor's degree or higher, compared to just 28.8% nationwide
- Boston is the 8<sup>th</sup> most educated city among a list of comparable cities. The Greater Boston area ranks even higher, at 4<sup>th</sup> among major metropolitan areas, in BA share

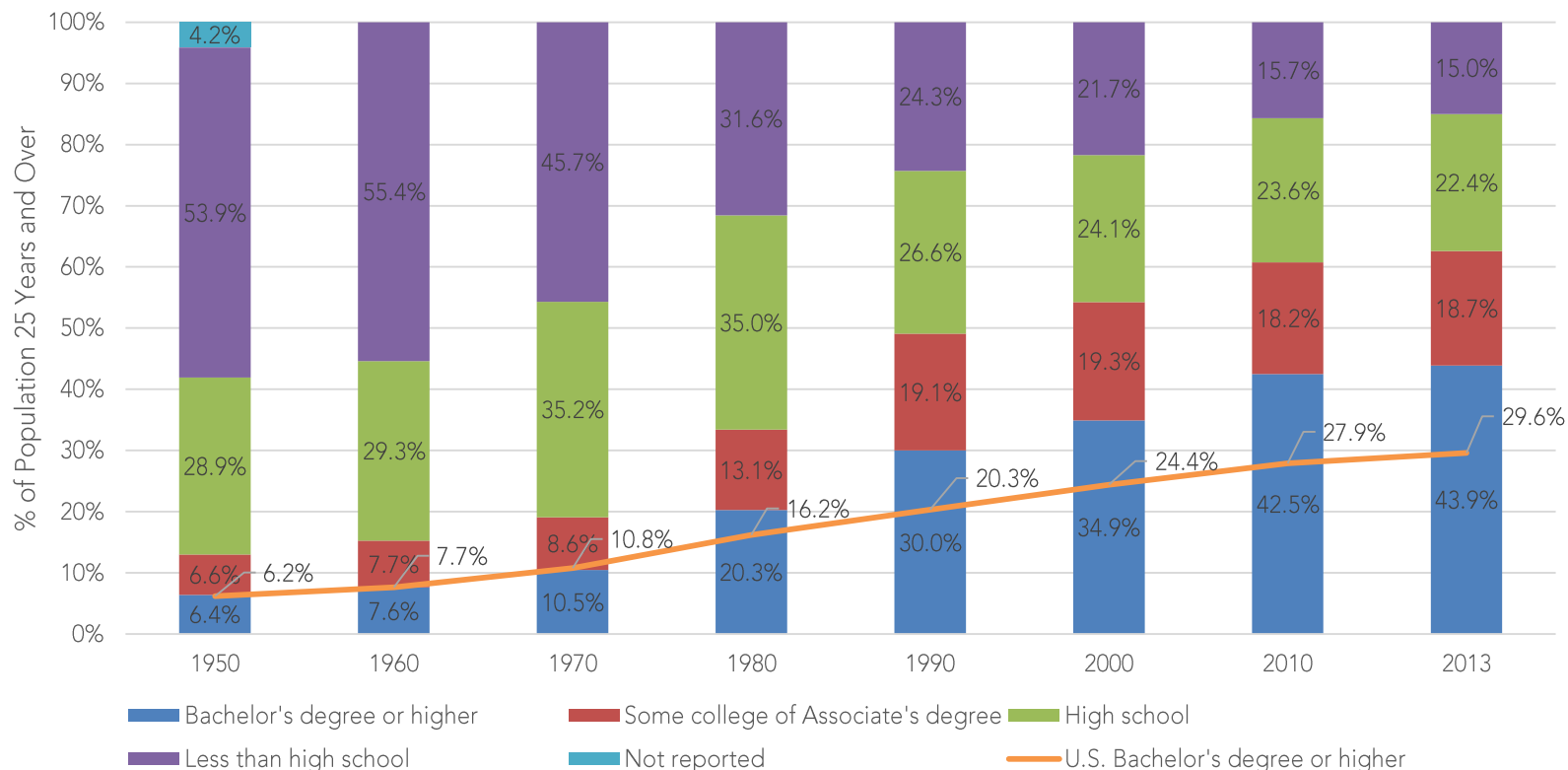
## Educational Attainment for Comparison Cities

City	Percent with at Least a BA,		Percent with at Least a BA,	
	City	City Rank	Metro Area	Metro Area Rank
Seattle, WA	57.4%	1	38.0%	9
Washington, DC	52.4%	3	47.9%	1
San Francisco, CA	52.4%	2	44.5%	3
Raleigh, NC	47.5%	4	42.2%	5
Atlanta, GA	46.8%	5	34.9%	12
Minneapolis, MN	45.7%	6	38.4%	8
Austin, TX	45.6%	7	40.6%	6
<b>Boston, MA</b>	<b>43.9%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>43.4%</b>	<b>4</b>
Portland, OR	43.8%	9	34.5%	15
Denver, CO	42.9%	10	39.2%	7
San Diego, CA	41.7%	11	34.6%	14
Charlotte, NC	39.8%	12	30.6%	20
San Jose, CA	37.4%	13	45.7%	2
Pittsburgh, PA	35.5%	14	29.9%	21
New York, NY	34.5%	15	36.5%	10
Chicago, IL	34.2%	16	34.6%	13
Los Angeles, CA	31.1%	17	31.4%	18
St. Louis, MO	29.6%	18	30.9%	19
Dallas, TX	29.4%	19	31.7%	17
Houston, TX	29.2%	20	29.4%	22
Baltimore, MD	26.8%	21	36.0%	11
Phoenix, AZ	26.3%	22	28.7%	24
Philadelphia, PA	23.9%	23	33.6%	16
Miami, FL	23.1%	24	28.9%	23
Detroit, MI	12.7%	25	28.1%	25

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- The proportion of Bostonians with a bachelor's degree or higher rose every decade from 6.4% in 1950 to 42.5% in 2010 (43.9% in 2013 according to ACS data)
- The percentage of Bostonians with a high school diploma or some college has remained relatively stable since 1970 at around 40-45% of the population
- The percentage without a high school education fell from 53.9% in 1950 to 15.7% in 2010

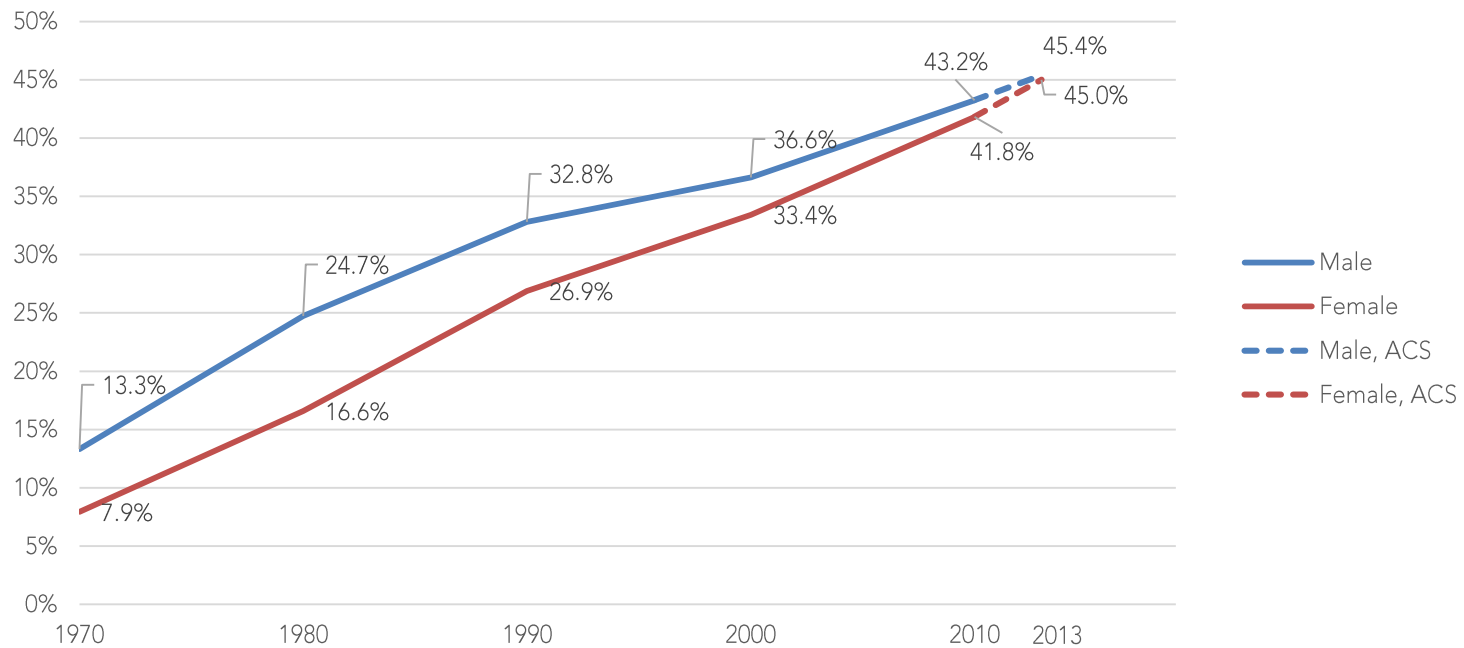
### Educational Attainment of Boston vs U.S. (1950-2013)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950 – 2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2013 1-Year American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- The gender gap in educational attainment for Bachelor's degree or higher diminished from 5.4 percentage points in 1970 to 1.4 percentage points in 2010
- The gender gap in 2013 stood at just 0.4 percentage points. Notably, the proportion of females holding graduate or professional degrees was higher than males in 2013: 21.3% of females in Boston had a professional or advanced degree, compared to 19.3% of males
- In the future, women's educational attainment may surpass that of men since women make up 55.5% of Boston residents enrolled in college or graduate school

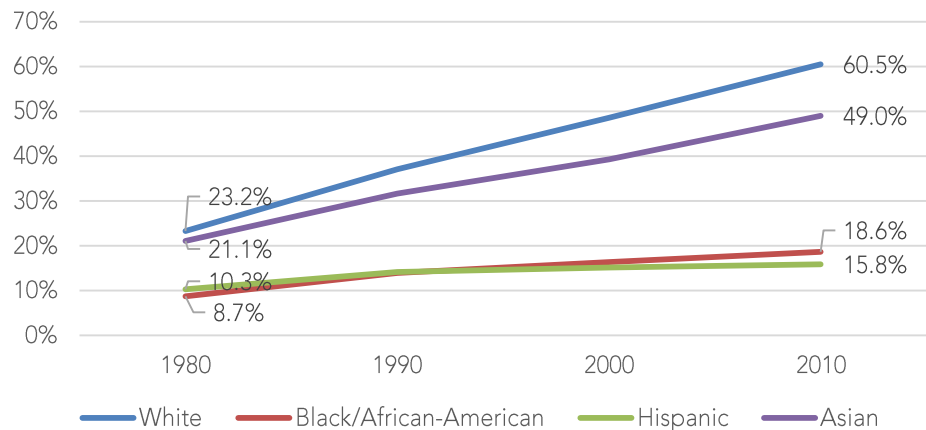
### Population 25+ with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher



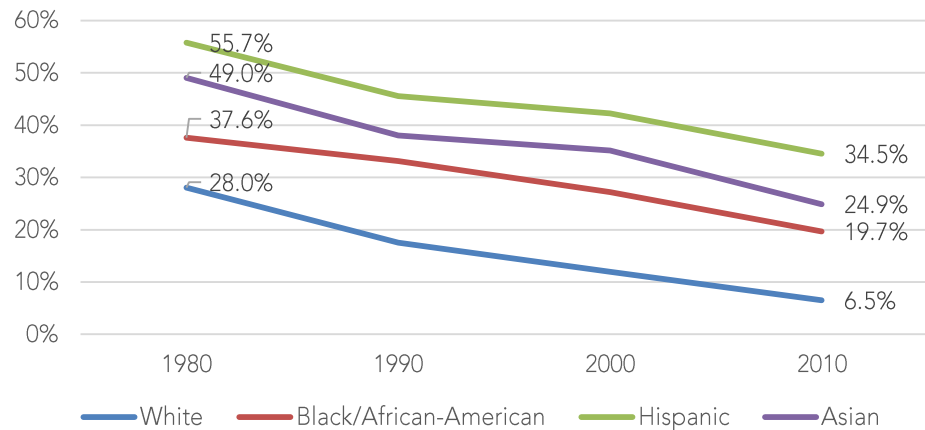
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970 - 2000 U.S. Decennial Census, 1990 Public Use Microdata Sample, 2010 & 2013 1-Year American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Educational attainment has been increasing for all racial/ethnic groups in Boston
- However, significant disparities in educational attainment between racial/ethnic groups still exist
- For example, 60.5% of the White population, but only 15.8% of the Hispanic population, had a bachelor's degree or higher in 2010
- The Asian population of Boston is bimodal: 49% has a bachelor's degree or higher, but 24.9% has less than a high school education

## Population 25+ with Bachelor's Degree or Higher



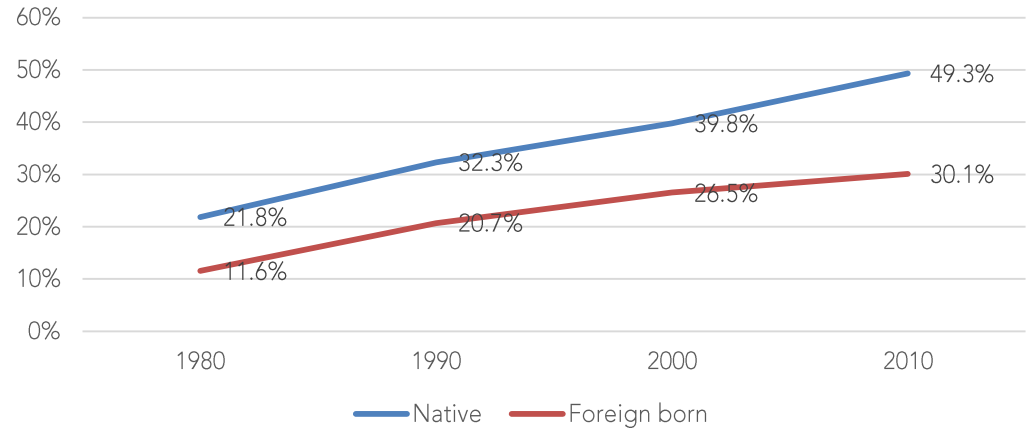
## Population 25+ with less than High School Education



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1980-2000 U.S. Census, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

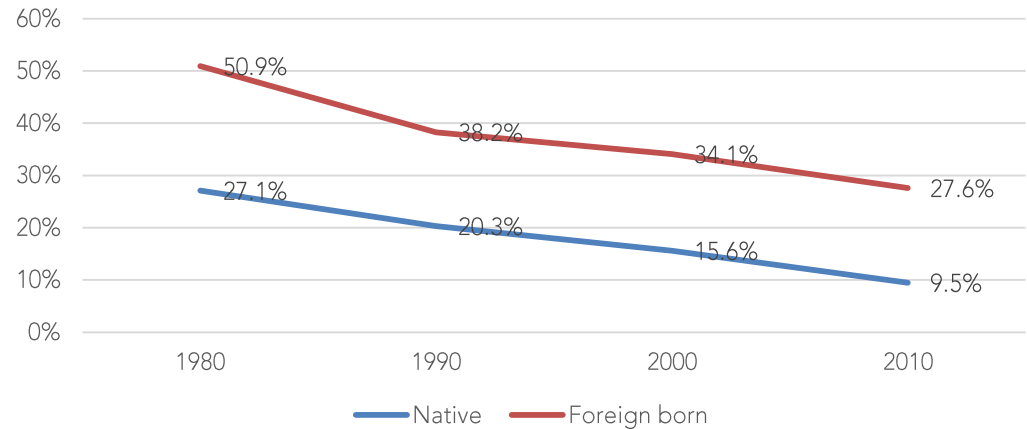
- The educational attainment of both the native- and foreign-born populations has been increasing over time

### Population 25+ with Bachelor's Degree or Higher



- However, the foreign-born population has significantly lower levels of educational attainment than the native-born population

### Population 25+ with less than High School Education

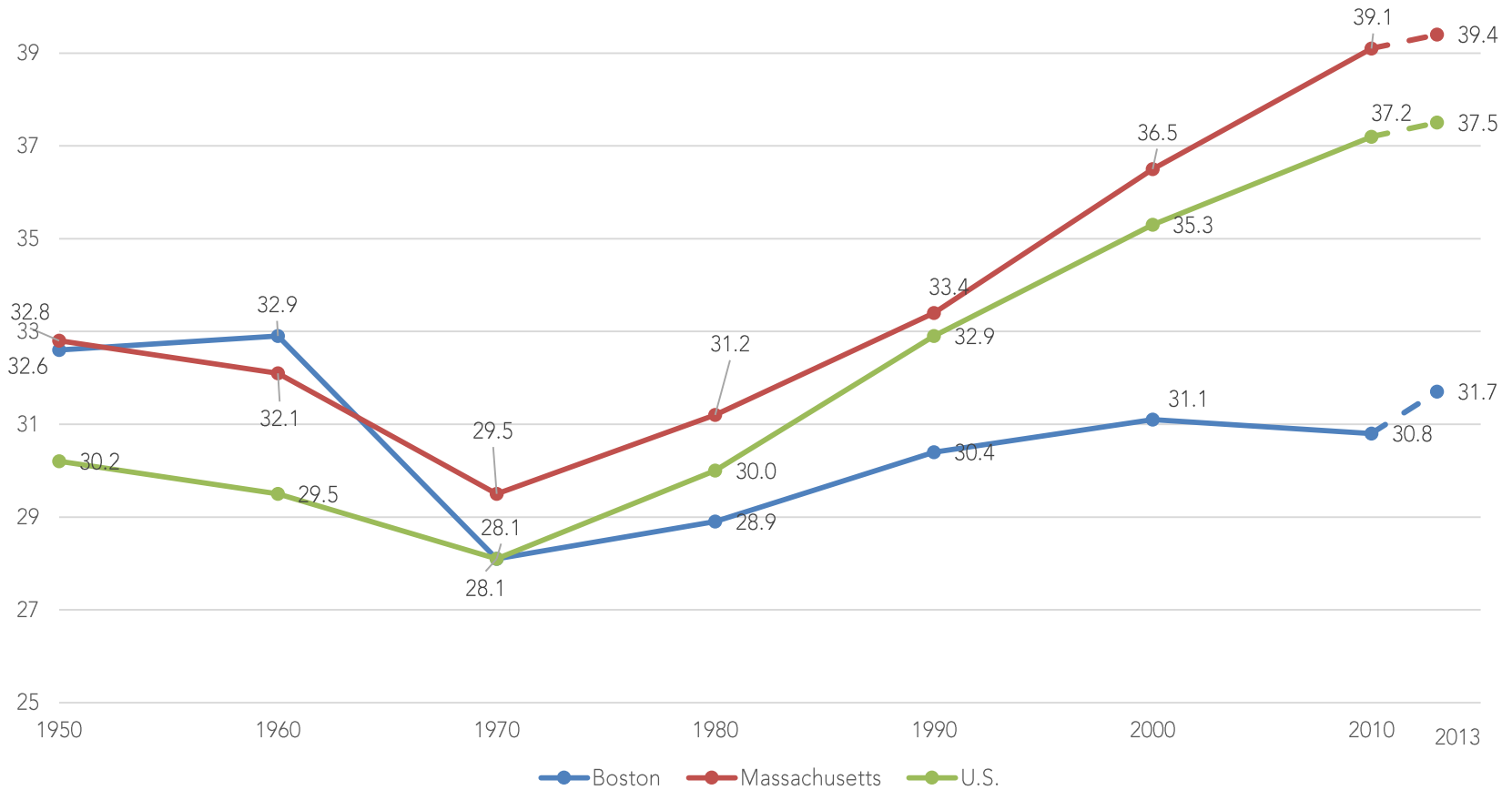


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1980-2000 U.S. Decennial Census, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS), BRA Research Division Analysis

# A YOUTHFUL CITY

- The median age in Massachusetts and the U.S. has risen significantly since 1970
- Boston has maintained a more youthful population, and its median age has only risen from 28.1 in 1970 to 30.8 in 2010

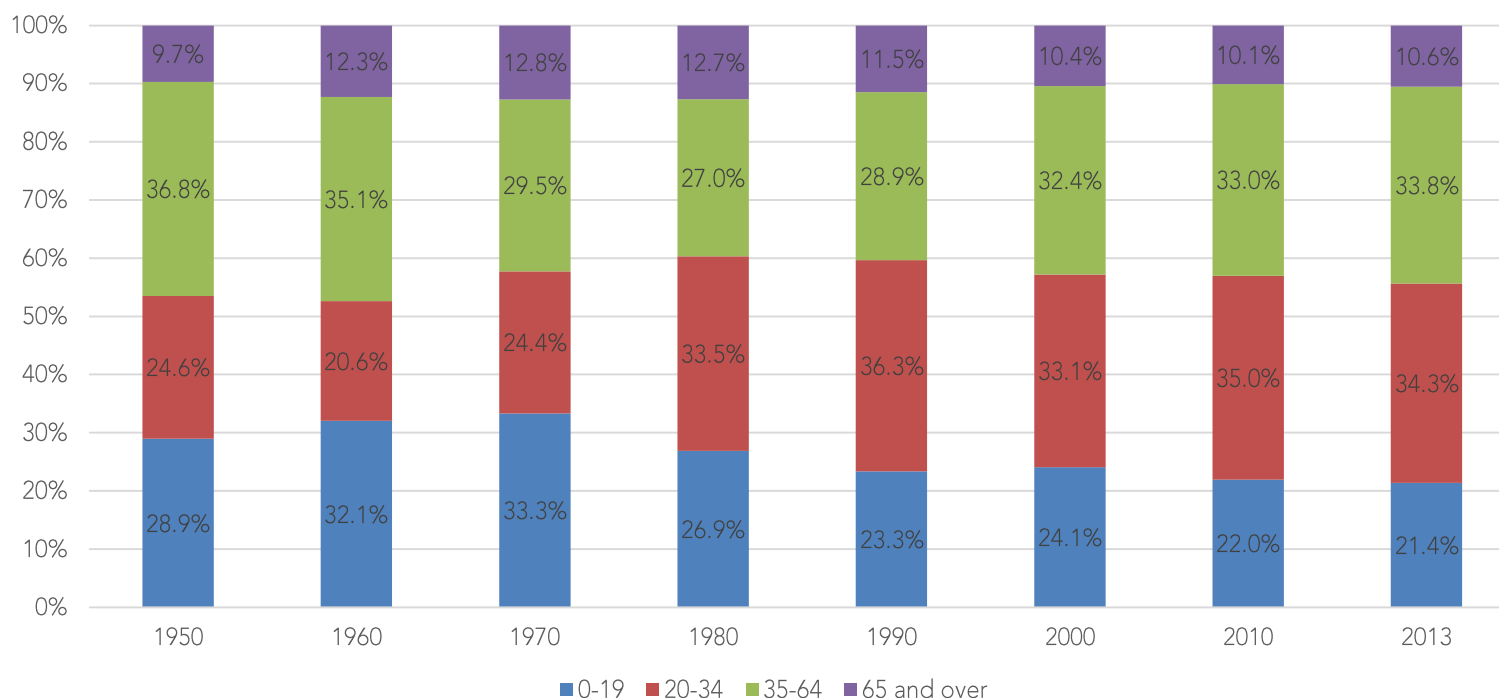
Median Age in Boston/MA/US (1950-2013)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2013 1-Year American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- The percentage of Boston's population that is age 0 to 19 has been decreasing to 21.4% in 2013
- The population between 20 and 34 has been increasing to 34.3% in 2013
- The 35-64 population had a 33.8% share in 2013
- The population 65 and over was 10.6% of Boston's population in 2013

Age Distribution of Boston's Population (1950-2013)

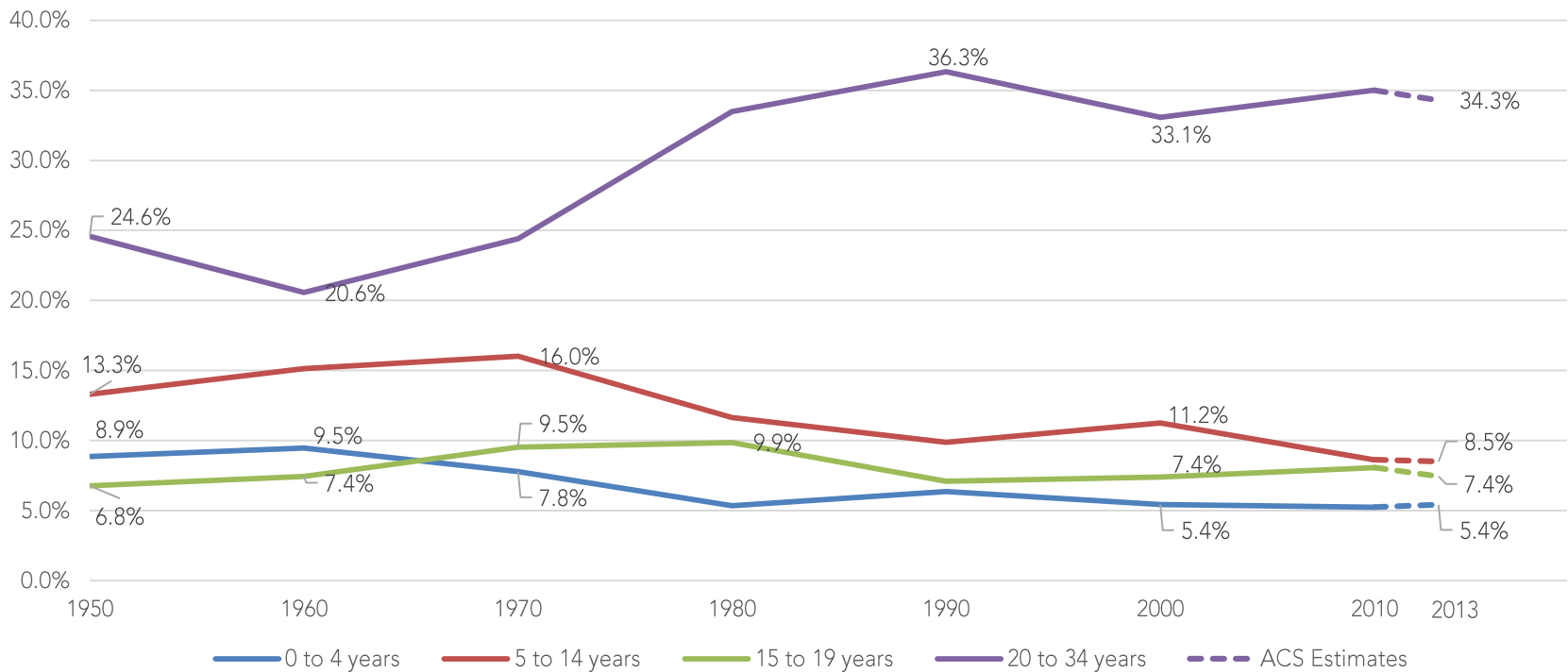


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2013 1-Year American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis



- The 0-4 and 5-14 populations declined during the 1970s, but have stabilized since 1980 at approximately 5% and 9% of the population, respectively
- Since 1950, the population of Boston age 20 to 34 has grown dramatically as a share of the population. In absolute terms, it increased from 197,007 in 1950 to 216,213 in 2010
- Boston has the highest concentration of young adults (20 to 34) among 25 comparable cities

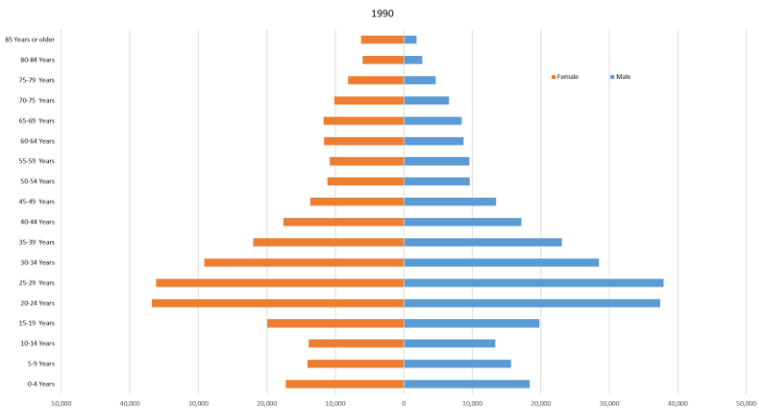
### Changes in 34 and Under Population (1950-2013)



This report uses a consistent set of 25 US cities for all comparisons. See Slide 15 for more detail.  
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2013 American Community Survey 1-year estimate, BRA Research Division Analysis

- In and around 2009, the population aged 20 to 34 increased substantially compared to earlier years
- Boston's population pyramid consistently demonstrates a low dependency ratio, meaning the working-aged population is comparatively larger than the population of children and retirees

1990



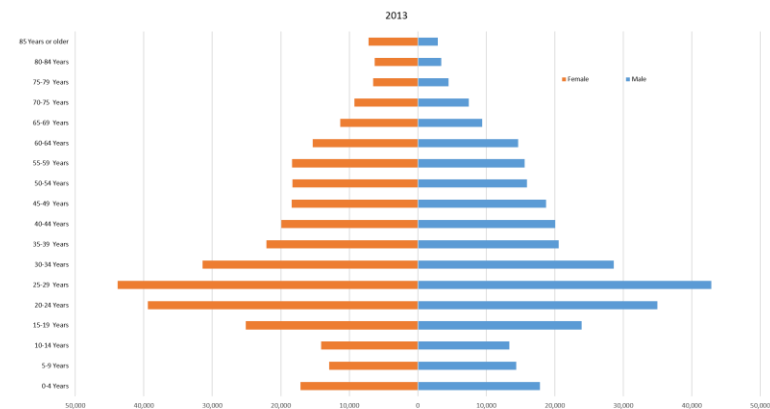
2000



2010



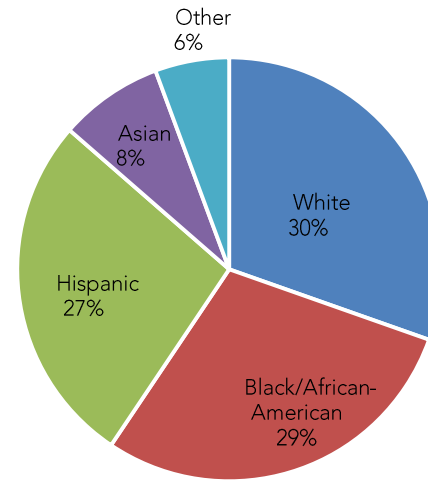
2013



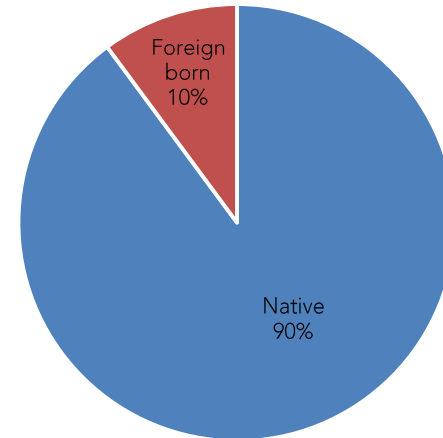
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2005-2013 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, BRA Research Division Analysis

## 0-19 POPULATION

- In 2013, there were 136,998 children aged 0-19 in Boston, making up 21.4% of the population – compared to 23.7% population share in the greater Boston region
- The 0-19 population is racially diverse, with almost equal numbers of White, Black/African-American, and Hispanic youth
- Almost 90% of Boston youth are native-born, but close to half live with at least one foreign-born parent
- Of the approximately 77,200 school age children in Boston, 74% attend Boston Public Schools
- 86% of BPS students are Black/African-American, Hispanic, or Asian
- 44% of BPS students speak a language other than English as their first language, and 29% of BPS students are Limited English Proficient (LEP) or ELL (English Language Learners)



Nativity of Boston's 0-19 Population



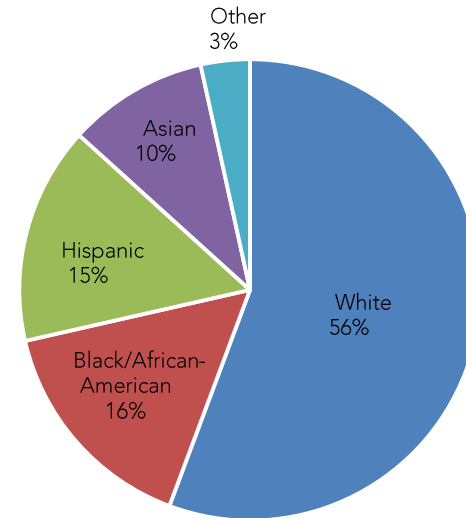
Note: Youth living with a foreign-born parent is for ages 0-17 due to data availability.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, Boston Public Schools at a Glance 2014-2015, BRA Research Division Analysis

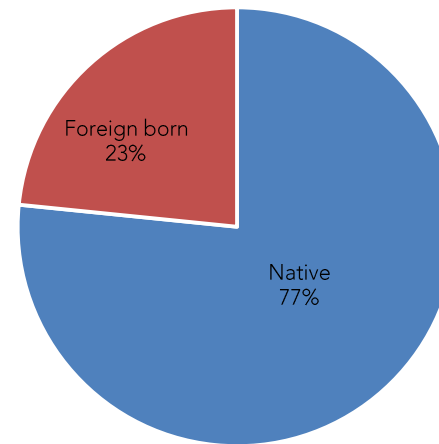
# 20-34 POPULATION

- In 2013, there were 219,717 young adults aged 20-34 in Boston, making up 34% of the population – compared to 22.7% population share in the greater Boston region
- 56% of 20-34 year olds are White, non-Hispanic and 77% are native born
- According to 2010 Census data, Boston had the highest percentage of 20-34 year olds of 25 comparable cities
- 2/3 of 18-24 year olds in Boston were enrolled in college or graduate school in 2013
- 80.9% of 20-34 year olds were single, never-married in 2013
- In 2009-2013 data, 82,834 Boston residents were undergraduate students, and 28,631 were graduate students

Racial/Ethnic Composition of Boston's 20-34 Population



Nativity of Boston's 20-34 Population



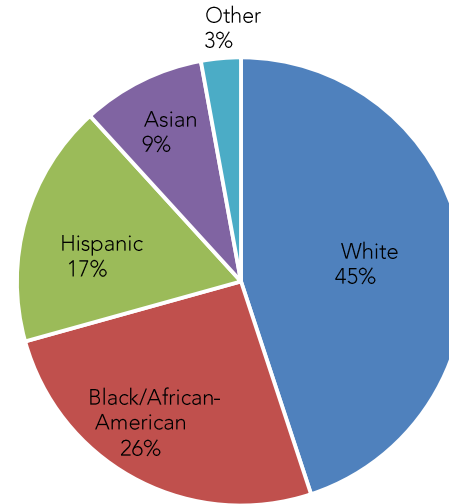
This report uses a consistent set of 25 US cities for all comparisons. See Slide 15 for more detail.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS), BRA Research Division Analysis

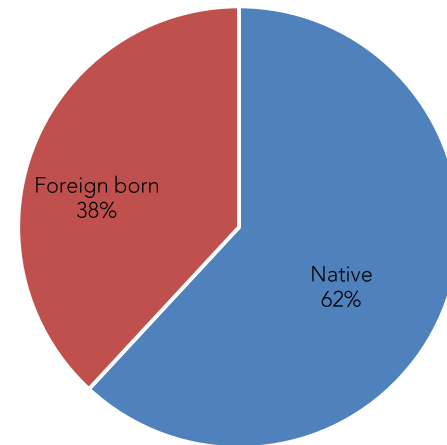
# 35-64 POPULATION

- In 2013, there were 216,911 adults aged 35-64 in Boston, making up 34% of the population – compared to a 40.1% population share in the greater Boston region
- The 35-64 share of the population has been growing since a low of 27% in 1980
- Less than half (45%) of this age group is White, non-Hispanic
- 38% of 35-64 year olds are foreign-born

Racial/Ethnic Composition of Boston's 35-64 Population



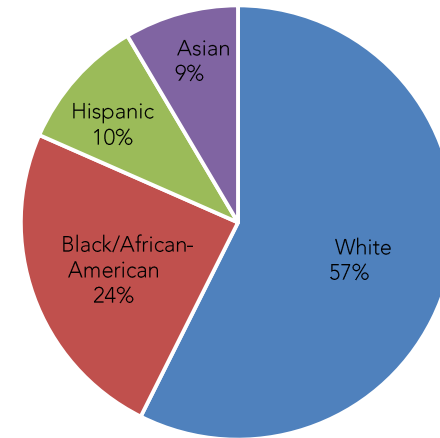
Nativity of Boston's 35-64 Population



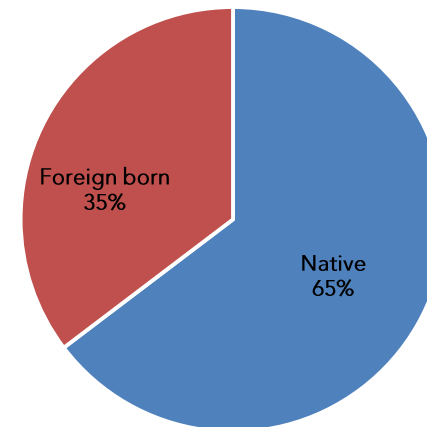
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample, (PUMS), BRA Research Division Analysis

## 65+ POPULATION

- In 2013, there were 67,883 seniors in Boston, making up 11% of the population – compared to a 13.6% population share in the greater Boston region
- About 80% of the 65+ population is Black/African-American or White, with smaller Hispanic and Asian populations
- 35.3% of the 65+ population is foreign-born
- In 2013, 26.4% of the 65 and over population spoke English less than very well
- 41.9% of those 65 and over were disabled in 2013
- 38.8% live alone, and 5.3% live in group quarters (such as nursing homes)
- In 2013, 90.7% of the 65+ population reported living in the same house 1 year ago
- Among the 9.3% who moved to a new home, the vast majority (8.1%) lived elsewhere in Massachusetts in the prior year



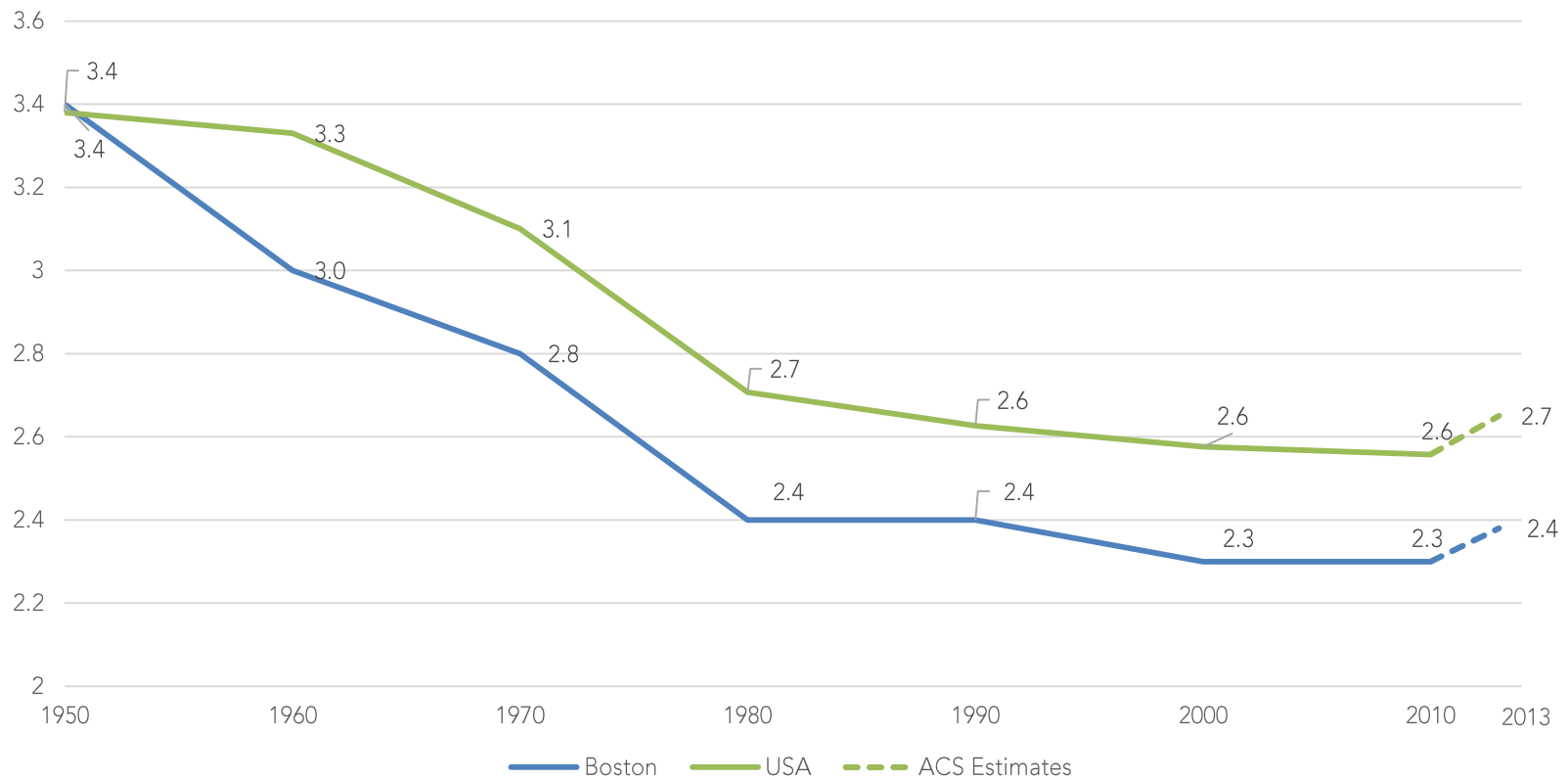
Nativity of Boston's 65+ Population



# BOSTON'S CHANGING HOUSEHOLDS

- Households are made up of one or more persons (unrelated individuals or families) sharing a housing unit
- Boston's average household size fell significantly from 3.4 in 1950 to 2.4 in 1980 and remained steady through 2010
- Since 1950, Boston's average household size has been lower than that of the U.S. and the greater Boston region

Average Household Size (1950-2013)

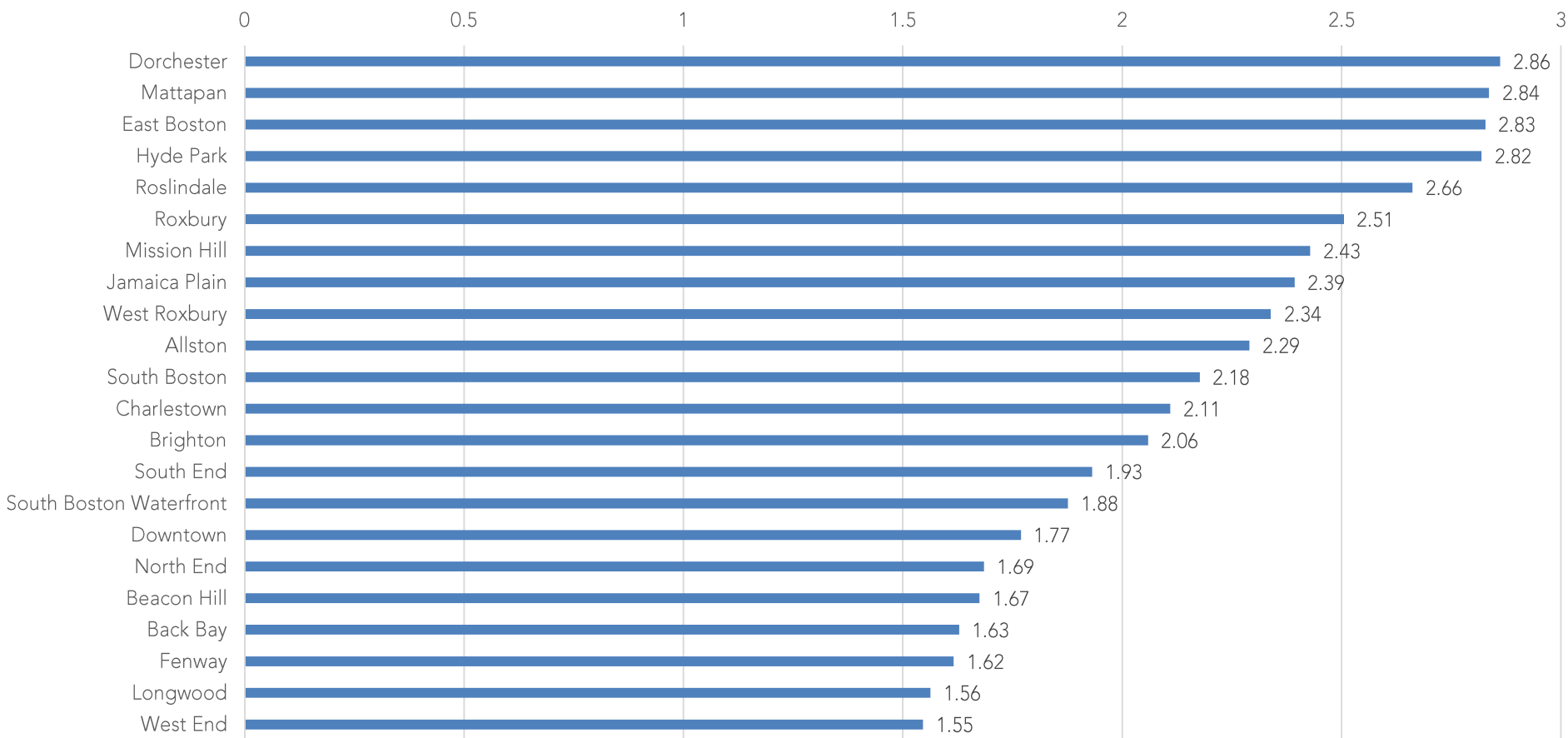


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1950-2000 U.S. Decennial Census, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis



- Boston's neighborhoods vary by average household size. In 2013, Dorchester, Mattapan, East Boston and Hyde Park had the highest average household sizes, while Back Bay, Fenway, Longwood and the West End had the lowest

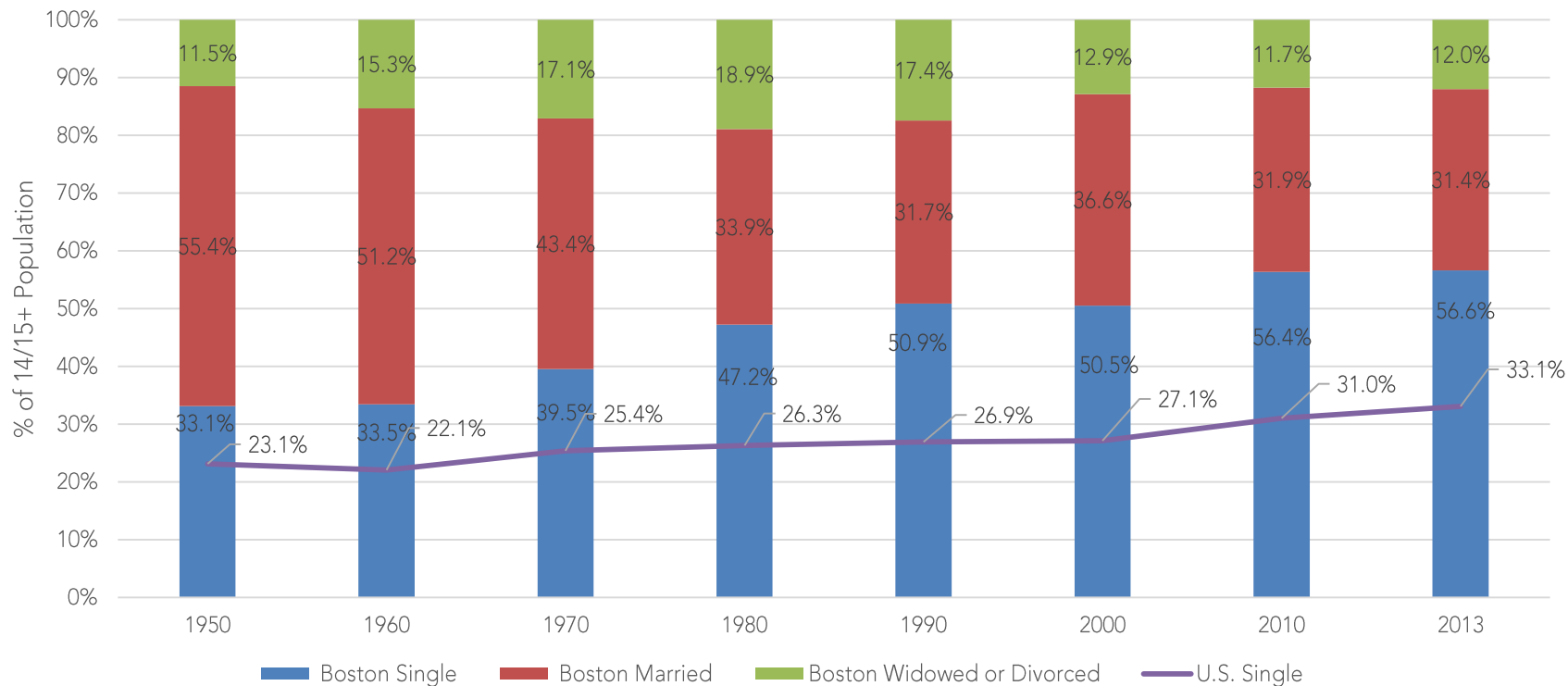
### Average Household Size by Neighborhood (2013)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- The share of Boston's population that is single, never-married, has been rising from 33.1% in 1950 to 56.4% in 2010 – considerably higher than the national share
- The percentage of Boston's population that is married has been falling proportionately, from 55.4% in 1950 to 31.9% in 2010

Marital Status of Boston's Population (1950-2013)

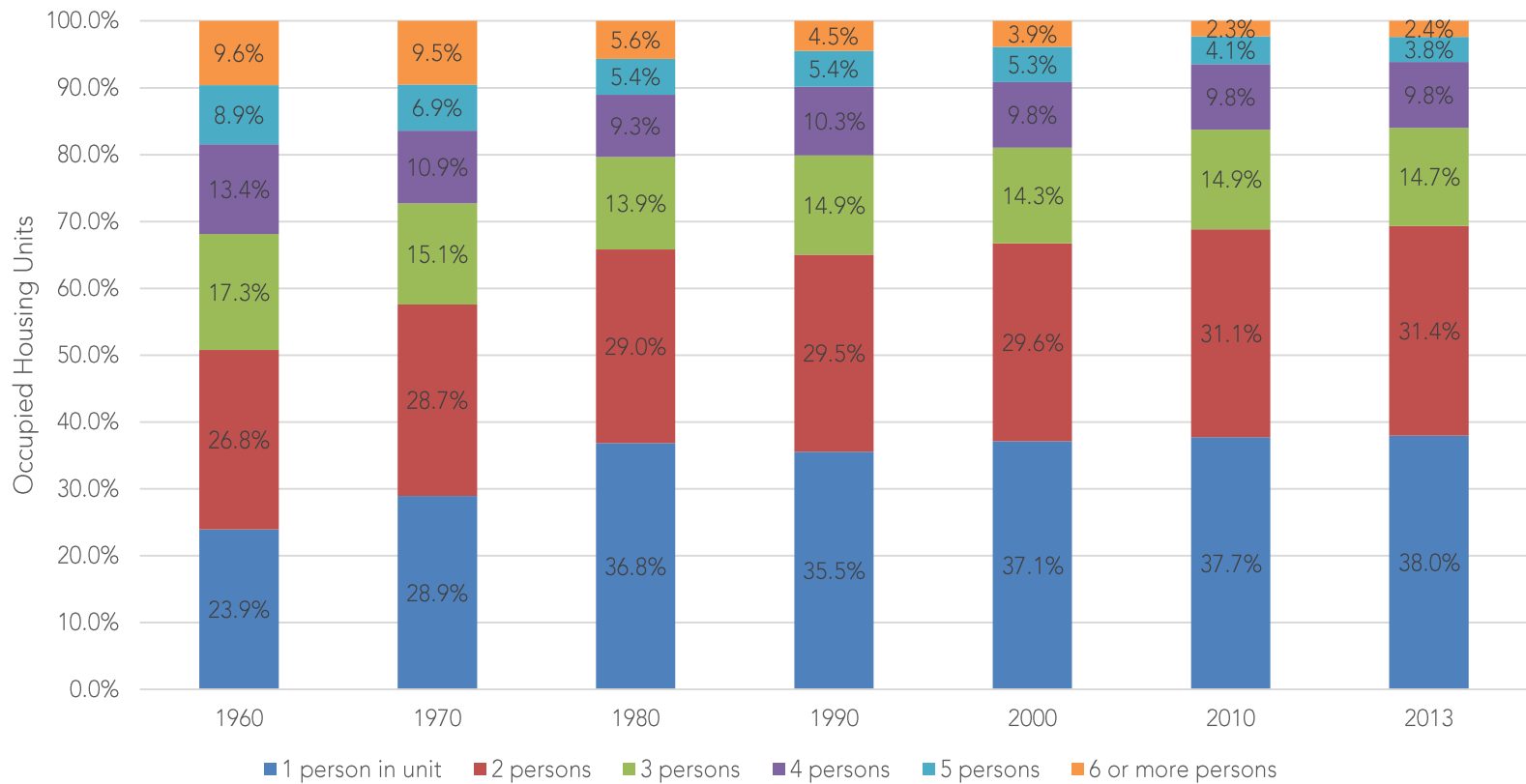


Note: Age 14+ for 1950-1970; Age 15+ for 1980-2010. Separated is included in married for 1950, 2000, & 2010.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Decennial Census 1950-2000, 2006-2010 American Community Survey, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis.

- More people are living alone, and the average household size declined between 1960 and 1980
- Only 32.4% of households have more than 2 people in 2013, down from 49.3% in 1960

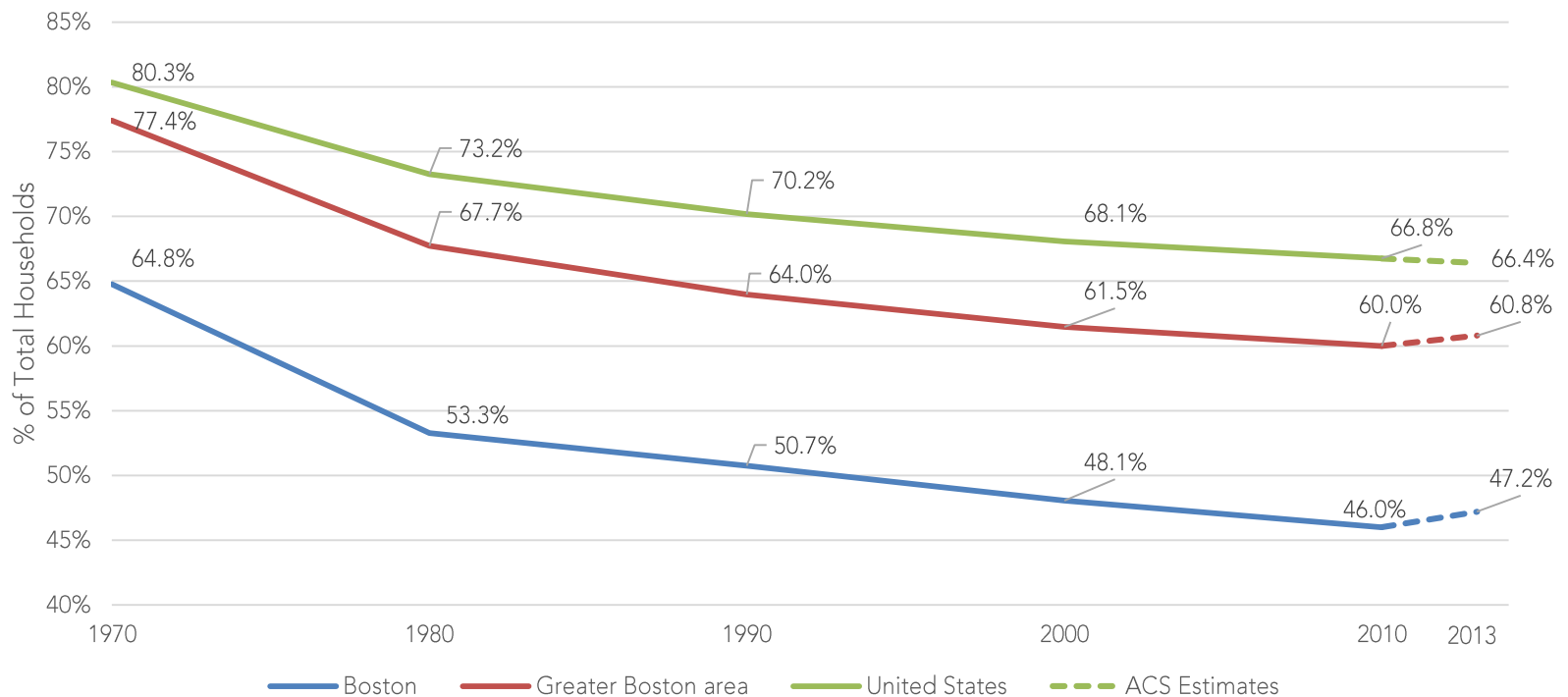
Boston Households by Number of People (1960-2013)



Note: The slides on household and family composition begin in the year of first available data.  
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1960-2010 U.S. Decennial Census; 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- A family or family household consists of a householder living with one or more other people related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption
- The percentage of Boston households that are families has been consistently lower than the national average
- This trend corresponds with the falling percentage of Boston residents who are married, and the falling share of children as a percentage of the population

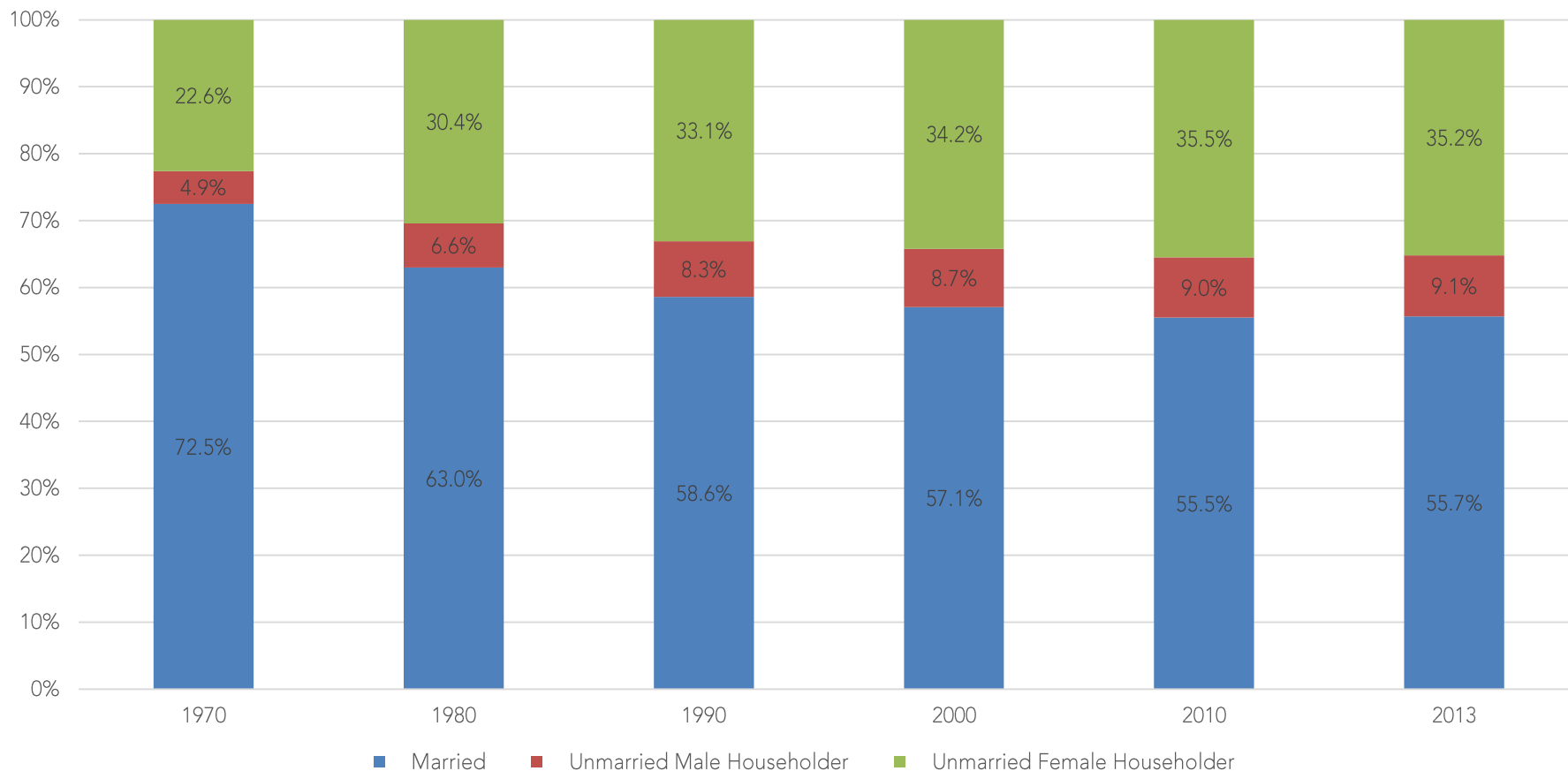
### Family Households (1970-2013)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- The percentage of family households that were headed by a married couple fell from 1970 to 1990. Since 1990, a little over half of family households have included a married couple

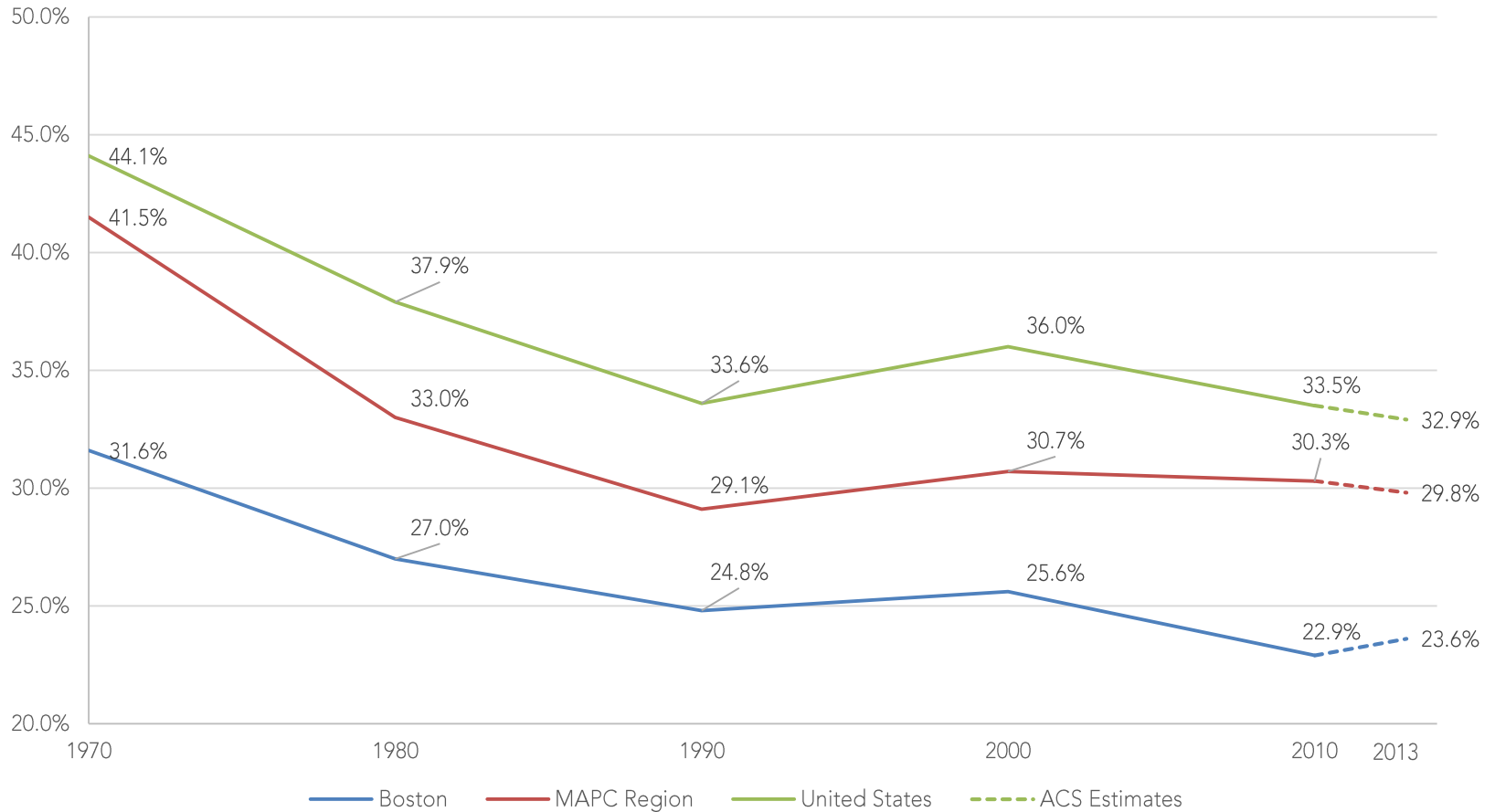
Family Households by Family Type (1970-2013)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- The percentage of Boston households that include at least one person under age 18 has been falling and remains below national and regional levels

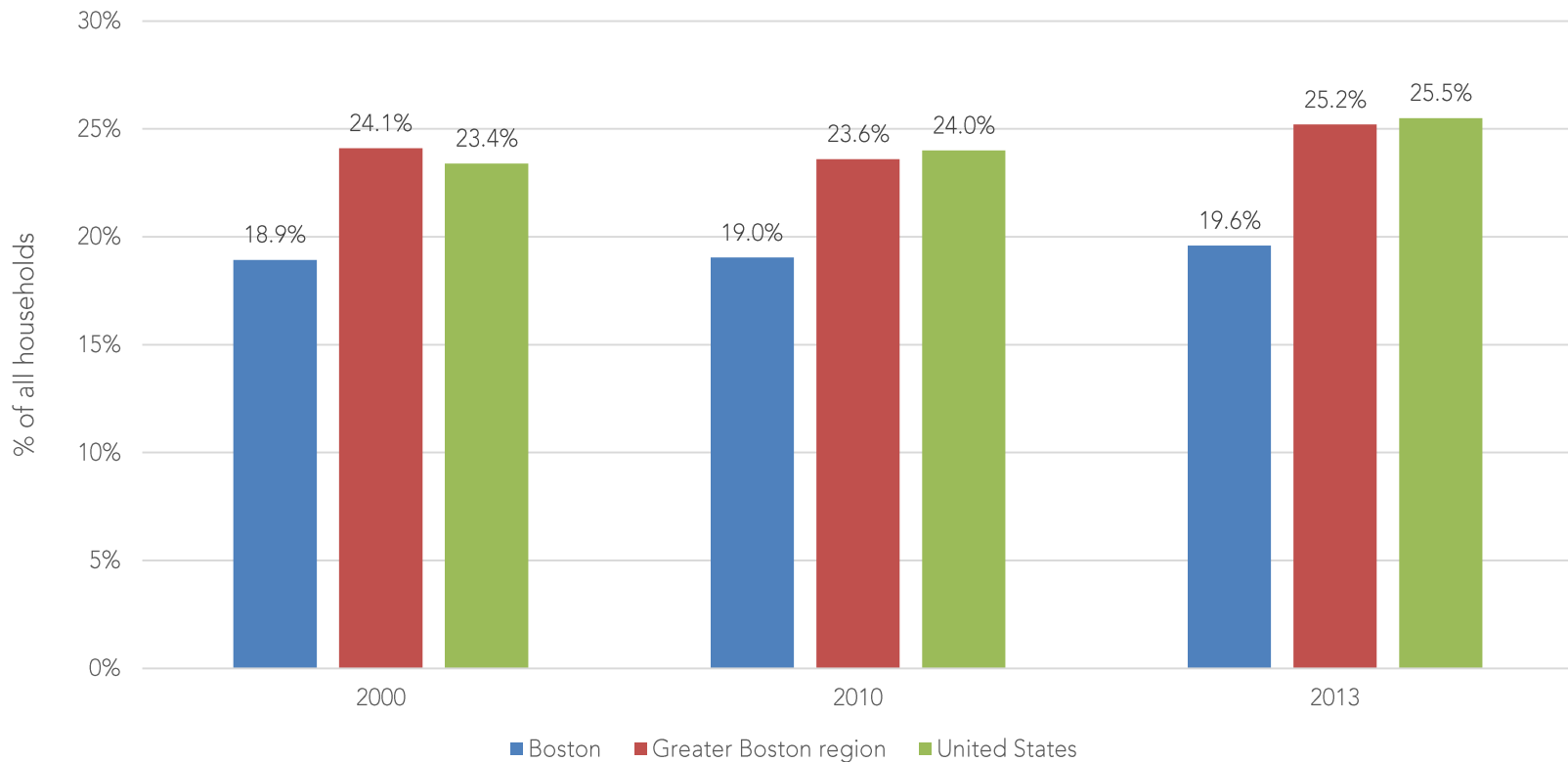
Households with Children under 18 (1970-2013)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1970-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis

- Boston has a smaller percentage of households with a person over age 65 than either the Greater Boston region or the nation
- In 2013, 38.8% of Boston residents 65 and over lived in a single-person household
- 52.7% of Boston seniors lived in family households in 2013 and 8.0% of them lived with a son or daughter

### Households with person over age 65



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000-2010 U.S. Decennial Census, 2009-2013 American Community Survey, BRA Research Division Analysis